THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

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CONTENTS.

	Page
Autobiography of William Simpson	443
The Evolution of the Japanese	444
Mr. Meynell on Disraeli	445
The Merchant Venturers of Bristol	446
Madame de Maintenon	447
New Novels (That Fast Miss Blount; The Last Word; Eileen; The Soul of Chivalry; A Tragic Contrast; The Blackmailer)	448—449
Politics and Politicians	449
School-Books	451
Our Library Table (Highways and Byways; Some Fruits of my Solitude; The "Fireside" Dickens; Tommy Wideawake; Boswell's Johnson Abridged; The Homely Virtues; The New Dumas; The Independent Review; The Scottish Historical Review)	452
List of New Books	452
An Unrhymed Sonnet; The Genealogy of 'The Three Musketeers'; The Coming Publishing Season	453
Literary Gossip	454
Science—The Victoria History of Essex; Zoological Gardens of Europe; Commercial Geography; Darwin and Evolution; Meetings Next Week; Gossip	456—457
Fine Arts—Mediæval Italian Medals; Archæological Papers; Gossip	457—459
Music—Gossip; Performances Next Week	459
Drama—'Little Mary'; Gossip	459—460

LITERATURE

The Autobiography of William Simpson, R.I. Edited by George Eyre-Todd. (Fisher Unwin.)

In many ways this is a remarkable book. It is the record of a striking career and of an interesting personality. The scenes which it sets forth are many and varied, ranging from the life of Glasgow in the thirties to the Crimea, Circassia, India, Abyssinia, Palestine, Paris at the time of the Commune, Afghanistan, and royal tours which the artist was privileged to accompany. Most noteworthy of all, perhaps, is the suggestion that it conveys of the immense possibilities that the widening sphere of the British Empire opens out to any youth of talent, energy, and resourcefulness. In this respect it might be recommended as a very attractive sequel to the series of "improving" biographies put forth by Dr. Smiles.

Like most of the heroes of that estimable chronicler, Simpson began life in straitened circumstances; he was brought up in a "land," or tenement, of Glasgow, and in the appendix he recalls the features of city life which appealed to him in those days, chief among them being the steam-carriage, or motor-car, that used to ply between Glasgow and Paisley. He had no regular education, but he had that advantage, a natural love of learning, especially for natural science. The scientific lectures at the Mechanics' Institute turned the current of his life. In due course he attended the architectural and mechanical drawing classes of the Andersonian University, and his skill gained him admission to a Glasgow firm. There his industry and determination to master the arts of drawing and painting brought him forward. In 1851 he moved to London, where his good draughtsmanship and dogged assiduity brought about the same results, while his conversations in French with a fellow-workman enabled him to master that language, so that (to quote his words) "when I went to the Crimea my French was far ahead of that of most of the officers I came across."

Sent by his firm to the Crimea to supply sketches of military scenes for lithographic reproduction, Simpson at last found himself in his element. The P. and O. steamship Colombo brought him to Balaklava on November 15th, on the day after the great storm. In a letter written the next day he thus described the scene:—

"Whichever way you looked you saw paddle-boxes, bows, sterns, many funnels and gangways of the injured vessels floating about in the water. None seems to have escaped. Lord Cardigan's yacht has her gunwale smashed in. It is difficult to conceive how so much mischief could have occurred in such a snug little harbour; but it would seem the ships were all lying so close together that they ground one another to pieces. Eight ships are reported to have sunk here, and about four or five hundred men were drowned. All the warm clothing for the army is lost and a great quantity of provisions."

The last details are somewhat exaggerated. The loss of life was not so great as Simpson believed, and though the Prince, the transport laden with the warm clothing for the army, was broken to pieces, yet, as Dr. W. H. Russell pointed out a trifle later, a good deal of the clothing was saved, owing to bales being washed ashore. The most serious loss of material was that of the new supplies of ammunition, which could not be recovered. Simpson's one aim being to go straight to the trenches, he cannot be blamed for not investigating affairs at Balaklava more fully; but the matter is clearly one that called for an editorial note. The misfortunes and muddles at Balaklava, together with the neglect of the authorities to make a good road to the front, though plenty of mending material lay near at hand, were accountable for many of the hardships endured throughout that most trying winter.

Simpson, on writing his reminiscences in old age, had little to say about the miseries of the war, and his pages are tame reading compared with those of Dr. Russell written at the time. The difference resulted partly, perhaps, from upbringing and temperament, Simpson having early learnt how to rough it in Glasgow and to make the best of things everywhere; partly because he had special work. The famous correspondent of the *Times* had an eye for what was telling in literary presentment, while Simpson's duty was to send home sketches for immediate reproduction. In this his success was startling and complete. He was allowed, nay encouraged, to take his sketches to headquarters and send them off in Lord Raglan's own letter-bag. The accuracy of his drawing brought him into notice with the staff generally; he was invited to lunch, and there more than once met General Canrobert. The Scotsman speedily became a *persona grata*, and his later reminiscences were naturally, though no doubt unconsciously, coloured by his good fortune. He states, what is certainly surprising, that no professional draughtsman came out to join the French army.

While telling his story in a truthful, straightforward way, Simpson fails to present either details or personages with any vividness or strength. A few good stories diversify his narrative of Crimean events, especially those about the genial Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons as the "old Blueblazes" of his middies; also the vanity of Lord Cardigan anent Simpson's trial sketches of the Balaklava Charge. On the other hand, the description of the naval expedition to Kertch and Yenikaleh is decidedly flat, besides which it leaves one with the impression that little came of the affair, which, however, led to the destruction of vast quantities of Russian supplies intended for the garrison of Sevastopol. Simpson's subsequent run into Circassia, where he came across Laurence Oliphant, also lacks interest, except where the possible origin of that remarkable man's predilection for spiritualism is hinted; and, again, where the writer gives the reply of a bloodthirsty Kurd at Batoum to the question where he was going on leaving the town, "Back to the mountains, where, please God, I hope to shoot some more travellers."

The well-merited success of Simpson's book of Crimean pictures—his publishers made 12,000*l.* by it—brought him into favour at Court, as also with the Duke of Newcastle and others, thus opening the way for further travels. India, after the Mutiny, was deemed a profitable field, and Simpson accordingly made a lengthy tour there, which included the source of the Ganges and the passes of the Himalayas. Again the lack of descriptive power is apparent, though one has every sympathy with the self-taught man who began earnestly to study the religious architecture and customs of the natives. By dint of wide observation and careful reading of all the books that came in his way he acquired a considerable fund of information on these topics, and his subsequent tour in Afghanistan enabled him in this respect to add many details to our knowledge of the districts west of the Khyber Pass.

The Franco-German war found Simpson along with G. A. Sala in Metz, where they were arrested as spies, and then at Paris on the day of the fall of the empire. His visits to Sedan, where he made a sketch of the Meuse valley as seen from the château of Donchéry, thence to the environs of Strassburg in the last days of the siege, and back to the battlefields round Metz, call for comment only in one particular. The writer puts forward, as if it were a theory of his own, an explanation as to Bazaine's comparative inaction in Metz, which coincides in the main with the facts as admitted by the marshal himself in his 'Épisodes de la Guerre de 1870 et le Blocus de Metz' (Madrid, 1883), and as stated by Busch, Bismarck's secretary. Simpson's sterling truthfulness altogether forbids the assumption that he gave out as his own a theory which he knew to be generally accepted; his native "canniness" doubtless helped him to the explanation; but an editorial note would have been desirable in order to show that his suggestion had not the originality which he claimed for it.

Simpson was in Paris during the reign of the Commune, as also during the terrible week of May that saw its suppression. Here his account reads somewhat like special pleading. The suggestion that the restorers of law and order forged papers that attributed to the Communists the design of burning Paris is based on the admitted forgery of the famous document "Faites

flamber Finances," but goes too far. Wild reports flew about as to the wholesale burning of Paris by "petroleuses" and firemen pumping petroleum; but there is no satisfactory evidence to convict the Versailles executive of so hateful a device. Simpson states that he saw no preparations for burning any part of the city. That may be, but it does not prove that no preparations were made; they are not, as a rule, done openly. On the 22nd, after the Versaillais had entered Paris, Delescluze ordered the following proclamation to be posted up: "Room for the people, for the bare-armed fighting men. The hour of the revolutionary war has come." An appeal of this nature to wild, despairing men was fairly certain to lead to the use of fire as well as musket and pike. Finally, Simpson minimizes the extent of damage done by the incendiaries, naming only two or three public buildings, and omitting the Hôtel de Ville and others that were burnt down. It is now generally admitted that Delescluze ordered his subordinate Brunel to set fire to the Rue Royale, and that Notre Dame and the Hôtel-Dieu were saved only by the courage of devoted rescuers.

We have no space in which to notice other events of Simpson's career — his experiences in Abyssinia, where he was too late to share in the entry of our troops into Magdala; his second journey in India at the time of the tour of the Prince of Wales; the trip to Mycenæ, and the time spent with the Afghan Boundary Commission. In his day he met nearly all the famous newspaper correspondents, from Dr. W. H. Russell and Oliphant to Sir H. M. Stanley and Archibald Forbes. With all he seems to have been on the best of terms, as also with the very many officers of both services whom he met. This alone bespeaks a nature at once manly, kind, and tactful. The most signal recognition of his fine qualities was afforded by the gracious reception which Her Majesty Queen Victoria accorded to him at Balmoral, and by the truly touching way in which the Prince of Wales of his day spoke to him at Sandringham after the death of the Duke of Clarence. The tenderest privilege of all was granted, that of making the final sketch of the features of the dead Prince.

Good sense is apparent in Simpson's deeds and judgments, as, for instance, his inference, after hearing many debates at the club at Simla between the officers of the old Company's regiments and the "royal" regiments, that those of the former understood and, on the whole, treated the natives far better than the new arrivals did. Shrewdness and resourcefulness also appeared in his actions, *e.g.*, the quick way in which at Suez he found out the means of reaching Zoula. The narrative, though lacking literary charm, is impressive from its transparent truthfulness and from the absence of that straining after effect which is the bane of memoir-writers. The reproductions of Simpson's water-colour paintings and drawings add to the interest of the volume. That of the fall of Sevastopol possesses high artistic merit.

Evolution of the Japanese, Social and Psychic. By Sidney L. Gulick. (Revell Company.)

In this stout volume we have an attempt to show what the Japanese people are in this twentieth century, and how they came to be what they are. There is a good deal that is interesting and important in Mr. Gulick's pages, as we should expect from the *neveu de son oncle*, but on the whole the book is disappointing. It is too crude, discursive, and diffuse, and the style is an unattractive variety of American journalese — indeed, it would be hard to find a method of presentment less agreeable. It contains materials that might profitably have been worked up into an essay of some hundred pages, but the work as we have it must be designated a big but not a great book. Mr. Gulick's principle, however, is sound. Travellers and residents abroad—and for that matter most writers at home—are in the habit of assuming the existence of special racial characters as explaining the social phase of a people at a given moment of history. This, which Mr. Gulick calls the biological principle, he rightly rejects, but after too wholesale a fashion. For evolution brings about the survival not of the fittest absolutely, but of the forms best adapted to the environment; and if the environment be of an inferior character, the surviving forms of existence, biological or social, must in some measure partake of that inferiority. Nevertheless it is true that the character of a nation is mainly the outcome of its history itself, for the most part dependent on the environment or the opportunities for progress presented in the course of time, and of the ability of the race to profit by these. In other words, tradition becomes the principal factor in the evolution of national character, and it is more than probable that Western and Eastern peoples developing under similar conditions of national existence would not show any fundamental diversities in social life, habits of thought, or political organization. The Japanese people afford a striking proof of this proposition. Up to 1868 all their traditions were markedly Oriental in character; in the three decades that have elapsed since the opening of the Meiji era they have shown themselves increasingly capable of many, at least, of the forms of a civilization historically and racially wholly alien to them.

Tradition, however, dies hard, and the Japanese are still very far from being fundamentally Europeanized. Other peoples have acquired, and more or less assimilated, the material civilization of the West, though neither so perfectly nor so intelligently as the people of Dai Nippon; but none has made anything like the advance in science, jurisprudence, and administration that has been achieved in Japan during the course of a single generation. It is of this phenomenon that the explanation is required, for the explanation would render it possible to forecast to what extent the further Europeanization of Japan can or may proceed. The answer can only be found in the past and present history and literature of the country, and especially in the history (political and social) of the Tokugawa period and of the development of government, law, and mental habit during the present era. Mr. Gulick gives us the views of various European writers; but these have no great value, based as they are upon no sufficient study of the only adequate sources of information; they depend upon superficial experiences of Japanese contemporary life, to the realities of which no European can penetrate. To the principal causes of the success of the movement of 1868 Mr. Gulick scarcely adverts, or at least not with sufficient emphasis. They are the antagonism between Eastern and Western Japan, which dates from an early period in Japanese history, and the existence of a numerous semi-aristocratic leisured class, the higher *Samurai*, or daimiate officials, among whom whatever political or administrative ability and experience the country could command in the early sixties was to be found. To these a third, and in the opinion of the reviewer by no means subordinate, cause may be added, the jealousy entertained by the western clans of the monopoly of foreign trade by the Tokugawa or Bakufu Government of Yeddo (Tokio).

In noting the shortcomings of latter-day Japan Mr. Gulick is more at home. He draws, on the whole, a lurid picture of the state of society, and, following in the wake of many recent writers, dispels ruthlessly many—most, indeed—of the fables with which it has too long been the fashion to amuse the simple British reader. It may now be taken as certain that a Japanese crowd does not exhale an odour of lavender —as the denizens of Al-Jannah get rid of the superfluities of their feasts—but one of a very different character (yet a Japanese crowd is certainly less offensive than a European one); that their cleanliness is largely superficial, their humanity, consideration, and courtesy of a very inferior quality. In Old Japan there existed virtually no hospitals or asylums or refuges for the poor and aged, and New Japan is not much better off. But the most serious count of Mr. Gulick's indictment is contained in his description of the inordinate, almost bestial, sensuality in which the nation still wallows. This, of course, was—and is—much less prominent in country districts than elsewhere; but according to Mr. Gulick, whose experience of Japan extends over many years, prostitutes exist "wherever there is a hotel." He adds that "public as well as secret prostitution has enormously increased during the last thirty or forty years." Forty or fifty of these miserable creatures commit suicide every month. The Government makes some attempts to lessen this evil, but example is better than precept, and so long as unrestricted concubinage is the rule, and the higher ranks freely indulge in this shocking injustice and tyranny to women, not much good is likely to result. In 1898 a Japanese newspaper, the *Yorozu Choho*, published an extraordinary list of 493 men (prominent residents in or near Tokio?) who maintained separate establishments, giving their names and profession, and also the names and occupations of the concubines, chiefly *geisha* and the like, and among these were nine ministers of State and ex-ministers, and fifteen peers of the realm, the remainder being barristers, doctors, and men engaged in business. Nevertheless, it would be

unjust to infer that the Japanese are more lacking in good natural qualities than other folk—except, possibly, in relation to sensual profligacy, for even their sacred books, extolled as the perfection of morality and wisdom by the foremost writers of Old Japan—Mabuchi, Motowori, &c.—are full of foul matter almost surpassing belief.

The mass of the nation, even of the educated portion of it, lag behind, and are likely for a long time to come to lag behind the few more intelligent thousands who are really pioneers on the way to a better state. Mr. Gulick does not sufficiently bring forward the more pleasing side of the true picture of Japan, and especially the excellent literary, scientific, and technical work now being accomplished there. It is true that the jurisprudence of the Japanese is tentative and imitative, and only partially comprehends its model; their histories are deficient in critical insight, and their fiction of the poorest quality. But, as we have more than once had occasion to remark in these columns, the Japanese have not had the advantages of the West; their development was arrested at an early stage by an alien and unprogressive civilization. Up to Meiji, the people were never considered at all, and the ruling class were bound in an iron system of trivial ceremonial. The wonder is not that they have not made greater progress, but that they have made so much, mainly of a true and permanent character. Even in the imaginative faculties it is not fair to assert their deficiency; the lack of results may be ascribed to the social repression of centuries, and does not prove lack of power. But there will always be a gulf between them and their Western contemporaries, a gulf both wide and deep, for it is scarcely possible that they can ever attain to more than a second-hand appreciation, or assimilation at the best, of what the civilization of Europe owes to the Greek, the Roman, the Jew, and the Teuton.

Benjamin Disraeli. By Wilfrid Meynell. 2 vols. (Hutchinson & Co.)

We are able to give almost unreserved praise to Mr. Meynell's captivating volumes upon a fascinating, but difficult subject. His big book is of the deepest interest, almost from the first page to the last; but it is no life of the statesman; rather a picture of the man. If it had appeared on the same day as the promised official life, each would only have helped or completed the other. Mr. Meynell's book in no way replaces Mr. Bryce's excellent sketch, written for the American public, but lately reprinted in this country and reviewed by us. Neither does it lessen the importance of the two perfect essays on Disraeli which have appeared in France. In the English tongue there is as yet, we think, no considerable life of Disraeli likely to be of permanent value, but Mr. Meynell's will, for what it is, both be appreciated at the moment and lastingly consulted.

Much might be said against many of Mr. Meynell's contentions—as, for example, where in his preface he describes what he finds to be "the consistency" of Disraeli's "political aims." It would be easy to point out that at one time Disraeli sided with the Radical economists in favour of parsimony as regards the public service, and at another time advocated courses wholly inconsistent with such action; that at one time he ridiculed, and at another time patronized, the colonial connexion; that he was at one time the spokesman of the extreme advocates of Protection, and at another time the champion of Free Trade. All turns upon the width of meaning attached to the phrase "political aims"; and we find no fault with its use by Mr. Meynell in the sense in which, probably, it is intended. We differ from our author in his complaint as to exaggeration in accentuating "Dizzy's partiality for gay waistcoats," which was, he says, "common to a whole crowd of persons" in the thirties. But Disraeli was the only one of them who was a budding leader of a great party. He was remarkable, even in the time of the dandies, for his light-blue linings to his velvet coats, and for many of the eccentricities displayed in the portrait painted for the scrapbook of Mrs. Milner Gibson. Moreover, Disraeli kept up his dandyism to extreme old age. The night he left the House of Commons for the last time, he walked away very late in an overcoat which reached nearly to his feet, and which was in colour of a grey so light that it looked all but white; with it he wore light lavender gloves of the same shade. No statesman of his age and rank has at any time done anything of the kind; and it is, we submit, not altogether without some bearing upon the character of the man to point out the fact. Mr. Meynell himself elaborates his own account in Disraeli's words of Disraeli's taste, and does not think it beneath him to accompany Disraeli's extravagant account of the perfections of the painters and sculptors of the Munich school by foot-notes in which he gently ridicules his hero.

The list of those from whom Mr. Meynell has gathered information is a little too miscellaneous for the liking of the inner circle of Disraeli's friends. There are some included in the list who can have known but little about Disraeli, and of whom Disraeli's opinion was not favourable. Mr. Meynell also, while he quotes, perhaps with too much praise, the various lives in English of Disraeli, passes too lightly over the French studies, which are infinitely better than anything which, upon this subject, this country has produced. There is here and there a little tendency to repetition in the volumes, which a fuller and better index, revised by the author himself, would have detected. But these are only slight blemishes, not affecting the great value of the work, and the picture of Disraeli as a man is in fact the first that we have received.

Many of the quotations from Disraeli's words will, naturally, be familiar to the public, but it is a good thing that they should be recalled to us, and that they should be brought together. Some of them are sayings which the world could ill spare: as, for example, when Disraeli said to Lord Malmesbury, after the death of Lady Beaconsfield: "When I tell my coachman to drive 'home,' I feel it is a mockery." Of course it is not only in connexion with South German art that Disraeli's want of general cultivation is brought out. His failure to give a just position to the Eastern as compared with the Western Church is as remarkable as his account of Munich, although it is not noticed by Mr. Meynell. There is a certain publication of ignorance in the passage quoted from one of the novels, which it is not unfair to attribute to Disraeli himself rather than to a mere dramatically-speaking character: "All other Churches established by the Hebrew Apostles have disappeared, but Rome remains." Some of the Churches established by the Apostles which are now branches of the Greek Church at Constantinople have a direct descent without interruption, such as cannot be claimed by any portion of the Western Church. The fact has, we admit, no great theological importance, but its historical interest is supreme, and it is the deficiency of Disraeli's historical knowledge as compared with his immense historical interest which strikes us as remarkable.

Mr. Meynell describes the Prime Minister Lord Derby as "Edward, 14th Earl of Derby," words which remind us (by the difference) of Prof. Thorold Rogers. We quote from memory:—

> Reckless in speech, and truculent in face,
> Geoffrey, fourteenth Earl of Derby, died:
> Only in this superior to his race,
> He left the winning for the losing side.

There is little in the volumes of Lord Derby or of any of the political colleagues of Disraeli, and it is better that it should be so. Mr. Meynell is thoroughly competent for the labour of love that he has undertaken; and, given his necessary limitations as regards the political history of a life not yet illustrated by the publication of the original documents, he was right to leave politics alone.

There are few errors in the text. We think that the statement that Lord Rosslyn "might have had the mastership of the House" is a printer's error for "Horse." The index, however, is seriously defective. It is amusing to find that an allusion to Mr. Dilke as editor of the *Athenæum* in 1832 has been rolled up by the index-maker with a political allusion to the grandson of Mr. Dilke, born many years after that date. An important allusion to Lord Derby, to which we have just now referred, is not indexed, and the allusion in the same paragraph to his earlier name of Lord Stanley is also omitted from the index. When we turn to Lord Stanley in the index we find two references. At the first "Lord Derby" would have been more appropriate, but under "Lord Derby" there is no reference; and at the second of the pages indicated there is no reference to Lord Stanley. We fear that it is necessary to pronounce the index most imperfect and somewhat incorrect; but it is unfair to any index-maker to leave him alone with a book of this kind. The difficulties which arise require so intimate a knowledge of historical biography that the author himself is the only man competent to supervise the index, and, indeed, ought to direct the method of its compilation.

The History of the Society of Merchant Venturers of the City of Bristol, with some Account of the Anterior Merchant Guilds. By John Latimer. (Bristol, Arrowsmith.)

This is a work that has long been hoped for, and its title will arouse keen curiosity upon the part of historians generally, for these Merchant Venturers played an important *rôle* in the history of the sea traffic of England; those interested in the inner life of ancient guilds will also be curious to peruse these pages—whether their curiosity will be fully satisfied is doubtful. The name of the author, John Latimer, has already appeared upon three volumes of Bristol history, and those who have read his volumes upon the life of that city during the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries will expect work which is the result of assiduous labour and patient delving into volumes and records.

Mr. Latimer, in his first chapter, 'The Guild Merchant and its Developments,' acknowledges his indebtedness to the work of Dr. Charles Gross on 'The Gild Merchants,' and it is from this learned German's work that he has gleaned much for his prefatory chapter, proving that early in the twelfth century Bristol merchants were favoured, and the town of Bristol was, as it were, the "mother" of the ninety-one Guild towns. Mr. Latimer has taken great pains to discover collateral evidence of the rise and development of the Bristol merchants outside their own archives. Probably much light would be thrown upon Bristol history by the archives of Oporto and Lisbon, Cadiz and Bordeaux, and the West Indies, and other districts closely connected with Bristol's trade in bygone centuries.

After the great charter of 1373, the first important document quoted is the ordinance made by William Canninge, Mayor of Bristowe, in the year 1467, for choosing a man, who has been a mayor or sheriff of Bristol, to be "Maister of the felaweschipp of merchaunts," and, as Mr. Latimer says, "under pretext of regulating the price to strangers of four articles of merchandise," to found a dominant society of merchants.

Right heartily the Society or Guild set to work to prevent all interference from other merchants or retail dealers, but not always successfully, although royal charters were obtained, and in 1566 a Bill was hurriedly got through Parliament confirming former authority and settling additional powers in its favour. The copy of this Act of Parliament is given in full. It brought the merchants into conflict with the Corporation of Bristol, although generally enough of their class were members of the Town Council to advance their own objects. Mr. Latimer writes an interesting note on the size and number of ships then sailing from London, and Bristol, the second port. London had the biggest ship, of 240 tons, and forty-eight others; Bristol had one ship of 140 tons and forty-three others. It is a noteworthy fact that more than one great gap occurs in the records of the Society; from 1552 "until nearly half a century afterwards.....no proof exists of any meeting." Was it convenient that records should be non-existent? When demands were made upon the Society the members pleaded "our poor funds," but evidences of their wealth were soon apparent; and in 1618 a most voluminous code of "Actes, Ordinaunces, and Decrees" was drawn up and confirmed, which gives a clear insight into the constitution of the Society. That gifts soon poured into its treasury is proved by the note in the lengthy charter of Charles I., dated January 7th, 1639, "for the 'preservacon,' &c., of the Goods, Chattles, Lands, Tenements, possessions, revercons, and hereditam^ts, given, granted, assigned, or confirmed," &c., to it.

This seems to be the first hint of the gifts and bequests which came thickly in later years, making the Society of Merchant Venturers of Bristol the possessors of whole tracts of land in Bristol, and the owners of the manor of Clifton, now largely built upon. This side of the history of the Merchants' Guild Mr. Latimer scarcely touches; but it is full of interest, and in vol. xxiii. of the Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society's *Transactions* is a copy of a map of Clifton dated 1746, showing the manor of Clifton and the estate belonging to the Merchants' Hall, estates that cover more than half of modern Clifton. An article by Mr. Latimer accompanies this map. The Reports of the Municipal Corporation Commissioners and the Charity Commissioners' Reports in the thirties of the last century also give a curious insight into the manner in which the Society acquired and accumulated wealth. For example, in 1695 a Richard Jones gave the Merchants 1,000*l.*, that the Hall, from the 40*l.* interest, might maintain six poor sailors or sailors' wives, and build rooms to receive them. With this 1,000*l.* an inn in Castle Street, with stables and outhouses, and two other houses were bought; to-day Castle Street is one of the prominent Bristol streets. One interesting gift consisted of a mead called Temple Mead, which, with other land, was given by Colston to maintain six old seamen and give them two shillings a week. In 1804 the Merchants let this mead, or a triangular plot of two acres, one rood, twenty perches, to a Mr. Hare for the sum down of 344*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* and a rent of 5*s.* per annum; but Mr. Hare did not take possession until 1807. This land adjoins now the chief Bristol railway station; and what is its enormously increased value? Of course the agricultural lands bequeathed or given to the Society have had their vicissitudes, and in this direction its wealth has decreased, or at least fluctuated.

The other sources of wealth were the dues granted to it by the Corporation for keyage, anchorage, cannage, plankage, &c., and the enormous profits made by individual members owing to the monopolies enjoyed by them. No goods of any foreigner, alien, or stranger to the liberties of the City were to be seen, tasted, or bought, save in the Back Hall; and later, members were forbidden to deal with non-members, under pains of heavy fines, or to permit a non-member to load goods in a vessel freighted by a member; and when the goods did arrive, as Mr. Latimer puts it, "a system reminding one of what is vulgarly called a knock-out" was adopted to prevent any member buying on his own account.

During the time of the Stuarts and of the Cromwellian wars the Merchants, in common with the city, suffered from exactions, first from the Royalists and then from the Parliamentarians. It was useless, when ship money was demanded, for the Bristol men to state that shipowners there were but few and poor; pay they had to, although they generally waited for more than one order; and it is significant that for twelve years no records are forthcoming, as if to emphasize the plea of poverty. Mr. Latimer's pages on this troublous time are quaintly interesting, especially the story of the demands from 1634 to 1639, which he has gleaned from the minutes of the Privy Council at the Record Office. It is interesting to note how strongly he takes the Bristol side in the various struggles between the Bristol and London merchants for equality, if not supremacy. The London men are dubbed monopolists, as on p. 138, and on p. 139 the Hamburg Company is spoken of as "another London clique." Perchance the London historian would retaliate; but the story of the struggles of the two cities to retain the monopolies of trading in certain districts or commodities is well told.

Leaving these matters, the author goes back to what he terms "the legitimate business" of the Society—*i.e.*, adventuring. The amount of illegitimate business was certainly enormous. He sketches the expedition of Master Mariner Martin Pring, with his two ships—the Speedwell, 50 tons, and the Discoverer, 20 tons—to the Bay of Massachusetts, when there was no English settlement "on any part of the American continent." One of the chief promoters of this enterprise was Richard Hakluyt, then a prebendary of Bristol Cathedral. In 1626 and 1628 no fewer than sixty privateers were fitted out, although in 1619 the merchants had pleaded their poverty, and affirmed that only Scotch and Flemish ships came into the port. One of these privateers—the Eagle, of 140 tons—brought in prizes in 1630 to the tune of 40,000*l.*

It is in 1631 that we get the first note of the social or convivial side of the Guild. An audit dinner seems to have been the origin of those feasts that have since made the Merchant Venturers famous as entertainers and hosts.

In 1661 the Merchants noted the growing reputation of the "Hotwells," and at once set about securing "the waste ground about it at a certain yearly rent for 1,000 years" (note the depreciatory description), and after a while (in 1676) they acquired three-fourths of the manor of Clifton, and picked up the other fourth in fragments, thus getting the valuable property to which we have already referred.

The chapter on the eighteenth-century history of the Merchants contains much on the slave traffic, which was abominably profitable to the members of the Guild; and here again a London company, engaged in the African trade, is termed "an influential clique." Of the extent of this terrible trade the note that in nine years Bristol and Liverpool sent 160,950 negroes to English plantations is eloquent evidence. In fighting the Londoners, Bristol pleaded that its subsistence "chiefly depended on this trade," and the Society declared it would be ruined by

exclusion from it. In the archives must be details of trade and barter, losses, number carried; but we get little insight into these, although reference is made to the affidavits of masters and sailors, and the policy of the Londoners in attempting to secure the trade is dubbed "undisguised selfishness." We do learn that the only food given to the slaves was "pease and beans," and we are told of revolting disclosures, when in 1788 the slaves expatriated had risen to 74,000 annually, and, to the credit of Bristol, the first provincial committee to abolish the slave trade was established here.

In the year 1788 *et seq.* the Merchants spent 6,000*l.* on reconstructing and beautifying their Hall, but in 1798, at "the gloomiest period of our national history," they had to plead "the lowness of their finances," and so could only subscribe 600*l.* to the voluntary subscription for the defence of the kingdom; though Bristol generally raised 31,300*l.*, the largest amount raised outside London.

Slowly the "legitimate business" of the Society died out. The early years of the nineteenth century it occupied jointly with the Corporation in bettering the access to the port. In 1833 the Royal Commissioners were refused information on the income of the Hall, a position always taken up by the master and wardens, and the history of the Society steadily dwindled down to a see-saw fighting with the Corporation for or against certain developments of the docks, until what may be termed the educational era of the Society set in. In 1880 the Master informed the Standing Committee that the site of the old grammar school had been purchased, and upon this site rose the now well-equipped Merchant Venturers' Technical College, while the Colston School for Girls is another great outcome of this educational era.

One cannot help wishing that Mr. Latimer had given us a little less of the Corporation and dock struggles, and a little more of the inner working of this ancient Guild. One wonders how it is that its estates, so great and valuable, produce so little as the 10,000*l.* a year he states is the sum the Society is free to deal with at discretion. Nevertheless, we have in this volume a valuable record, the outcome of patient labour.

Souvenirs sur Madame de Maintenon. Publiés par le Comte d'Haussonville et G. Hanotaux.—*Les Cahiers de Mademoiselle d'Aumale.* Avec une Introduction par G. Hanotaux. (Paris, Calmann-Lévy.)

It appears as little likely that a definitive judgment can ever be pronounced upon the character and career of Madame de Maintenon as that the mystery of a personality like Cromwell's should be unfolded. But as regards each it may be alleged with confidence that a strong case for the defence has been built up since historians began to treat documents conscientiously. The eighteenth-century view, founded upon the impudent fabrications of La Beaumelle, can no longer be held by unprejudiced inquirers who wish to form an opinion as to the part played in history by the secret wife of the Grand Monarque. Yet though it may be tolerably certain that she was not the malignant hypocrite of unbounded ambition and almost limitless power that her many enemies represented her, it by no means follows that we can accept the hagiography emanating from St. Cyr as a complete revelation. The two incontestable facts that M. Hanotaux insists upon—the mass of carefully expurgated documents in existence of a favourable and edifying character on the one hand, and on the other the methodical destruction of whole bodies of important correspondence—are by no means in her favour. There might have been reasons why the whole of Madame de Maintenon's correspondence with Louis XIV. should be destroyed; but why should such a saint upon earth have been so careful to burn all her letters to two of her confessors, as well as those to her intimate friend Madame de Montchevreuil? It certainly looks as though there were something behind. Abandoning the main riddle as insoluble, the historian has here to consider what light is thrown upon it by the publication before us. The 'Mémoires de Mademoiselle d'Aumale et Souvenirs de Madame de Caylus, pour servir à l'Histoire de Madame de Maintenon' (which is the full title of the manuscript abbreviated by the editors into 'Les Cahiers de Mademoiselle d'Aumale'), were designed as a counterblast to the work of Laurent Angliviel de la Beaumelle. Written by the confidante of Madame de Maintenon's later years, and "arranged" by her nephew at the request of the authorities at the head of her foundation at St. Cyr, they have remained unpublished until now. The editors, who have in a previous volume printed an earlier 'Mémoire' of Mademoiselle d'Aumale (the document for detaining a manuscript copy of which La Beaumelle had been sent to the Bastille in 1754), have probably done wisely in printing only extensive excerpts ("des larges extraits") from the later manuscripts. They have, however, carefully indicated the nature of the omitted portions ("toute la partie de l'œuvre qui ne nous a paru offrir ni nouveauté, ni originalité"), and claim to have presented in full everything capable of being looked upon as a contribution to the history of Madame de Maintenon and her time. The text is elucidated by valuable notes containing parallel citations from St. Simon, Dangeau, and La Beaumelle, in addition to references to the "Correspondance générale" of Madame de Maintenon, and quotations from MM. Lavallée, Geffroy, and Taphanel, the chief writers upon the subject in our own day. The introduction of M. Hanotaux is luminous in the extreme, and fully worthy of his high reputation. He is, however, it seems to us, somewhat unduly tolerant of the literary adventurer who, having wormed himself into the inmost secrets of St. Cyr, did not scruple to use every method (even to forging whole letters) to destroy the reputation of its foundress. Considering that Madame de Maintenon's reputation had, until recent years, been almost entirely accepted (even by sober historians such as Martin) in the light represented by La Beaumelle, we think that he has been let off all too lightly. With this reservation (not necessary, perhaps, for French readers) we have unstinted praise to give to the breadth of outlook, exactness in detail, and thorough impartiality which characterize every part of the volume. The phrase "toute la personne illuminé par *un regard de velours noir*," which occurs in M. Hanotaux's portrait of his subject (too long to cite in full), strikes us as peculiarly happy.

It is well said that these "cahiers," however trivial they may sometimes appear in detail, are valuable as enshrining the spirit of the great age ("l'âme du grand siècle") of which Louis XIV. was the titular genius. Besides her own recollections of what she had seen and heard, Mlle. d'Aumale expressly informs her readers that great part of what she has set down for them is made up of the "Souvenirs de Madame de Caylus, qu'elle m'a donnés écrits de sa main." The favourite niece of Madame de Maintenon was careful, she says, not only to promise that she would speak of nothing that she had not seen with her own eyes or heard from Madame de Maintenon or other ocular witnesses, but also further to declare that neither prejudices of education nor impulses of gratitude should induce her to say anything contrary to truth. So far as a reader of to-day is in a position to judge, both Madame de Caylus and her friend have done their best to adhere to this declaration; and they cannot be convicted of inaccuracy with regard to any important matter. Whether they were capable of fully fathoming the character of their subject is, of course, another matter.

The first section of the published extracts from the 'Mémoires' is concerned with the relations of Madame de Maintenon with Madame de Montespan and the king during the predominance of his second mistress. The way in which his future wife first came before Louis's notice was scarcely calculated to make a good impression upon him. The widow of the author of 'Le Roman Comique,' having, on the death of Anne of Austria, ceased to enjoy a small pension, lost no time in getting her friends at Court to present petitions for its renewal:—

"Ces placets commençoient toujours 'La veuve Scarron supplie.' Le Roi, à qui on les montroit tous, fatigué à la fin de les voir si souvent répétés, dit un jour avec vivacité: 'Entendrai-je donc toujours parlé de la veuve Scarron?' Et pendant du temps, à la Cour, quand on étoit fatigué et ennuyé de quelqu'un on disoit 'Il est aussi importun que la veuve Scarron.'"

Having succeeded in her object, by the help either of Montespan or, as she said herself, of M. de Villeroy, the future Madame de Maintenon determined to live more strictly than ever—"elle prit le parti de vivre en vraie chrétienne"—and selected a confessor of uncompromising rigidity. "This woman," writes Mlle. d'Aumale, "who had up to this time been the charm of her circle, who had been accustomed to talk with all possible vivacity and wit, suddenly took up the attitude of no longer saying a word, *et s'efforce de devenir ennuyeuse.*"

It was some three years later that Madame de Montespan, whom she had known earlier, asked Madame Scarron to take charge of her children by Louis XIV. She demurred at first: "pour les enfants de Madame de Montespan elle ne s'en chargeroit pas, *que si c'étoit ceux du Roi et qu'il le voulut, il falloit qu'il l'en priât.*" After the legitimation of

the children and their establishment at Versailles, the king and the *gouvernante* came into closer touch. But, although he appreciated her care of her charges (of whom it cannot be disputed that she was always genuinely fond), Louis for some time looked upon the lady as a *précieuse* of slight personal attractions, and was wont to speak mockingly of her to his mistress as "votre bel esprit." It was, however, in truth, this very *bel esprit* which, aided by no mean personal charms—she had gone by the name of *la belle Indienne* for some time after her return from the West Indies—ultimately won his regard.

If we are to believe the St. Cyr apologist, all that she wanted at this time was a small property where she could lead a quiet life. Madame de Montespan, though she, too, appreciated to the last the charm of the widow Scarron's conversation, naturally became jealous of the growing favour of her *protégée* and showed it both to her face and behind her back in every way: "elle la contrarioit sur tout ce qui regardoit le gouvernement de ses enfants, et la traitoit quelquefois comme la dernière femme de chambre." Again and again do we read of the *manière insoutenable* with which the favourite treated her children's benefactor; and it does not seem difficult to believe in her long cherished desire to retire into the country. Yet, when the king shows his approbation of her conduct by presenting her with the domain whose name she ever after continued to bear, Madame de Maintenon lets herself be persuaded by her confessor that it is her duty to remain at Court. Whether she had or had not formed any deliberate scheme to supplant Madame de Montespan, it was certainly a happy thought of hers to surprise the king by making an unexpected appearance before him with his little son whom she had just brought back from the baths of Barèges. Madame de Sévigné writes of his "transport of joy" upon the occasion. It is clear, however, that the deciding factor in Louis's mind was the even-tempered amiability which Madame de Maintenon consistently displayed, as contrasted with the gusts of frantic rage to which Madame de Montespan constantly gave way. And when, his passion for the mistress having almost burnt itself out, he was inclining towards what he considered a religious life—he was always oscillating between sensuality and religion—there was Madame de Maintenon with her winning address, insinuating the prudence of beginning to think seriously of that other world in which she knew that he really believed as implicitly as herself. She soon reconciled him with his queen, whose death not long afterwards was found also to be a valuable aid to devotion. Finally came the secret marriage, which the tactful woman knew well how to use as a source of permanent influence.

The fact seems to be that Louis found the unvarying good sense and amiability of Madame de Maintenon, and perhaps above all her passionless temperament, to be exactly what he required at the time of life at which he had arrived. It is certain that, despite the absolute secrecy of the marriage, which the king even upon his deathbed did not acknowledge, but which undoubtedly took place, and in face of the very remarkable fact that Madame de Maintenon never let slip any expression which could prove it, she never was treated by the Court as it was accustomed to treat a *maîtresse en titre*. On the other hand, such was her "incomprehensible discretion" that no one dared to hint at a legitimate union and so flatter themselves into her esteem. Once only, after Louis was dead, the supposed mistress, in speaking of the difference between her condition and that of other of his favourites, is recorded to have said, in allusion to the first, "Ce sont des liens sacrés."

Discretion could hardly have been carried further. It is probable that in matters political Madame was almost equally prudent. No one knew better than she that Louis was not the man to let women interfere in the direction of political affairs; and there is nothing to show that she herself, except in matters of religion, was sufficiently interested in them to wish to do so. "Elle ne savoit les choses la plupart du temps que quand elles étoient faites," writes her apologist; but she adds: "Quand elle savoit quelque projet formé qui pouvoit être nuisible et à charge aux peuples, elle employoit toute sa faveur et sa protection pour tâcher d'en détourner." Her own statement that though the king frequently consulted with his ministers in her apartments, she was seldom or never within earshot, and only approached when summoned, does not, however, exclude subsequent or indirect influence.

There can be little doubt that she exercised power of some sort in ecclesiastical affairs. "Quoique assurément elle ne gouvernât point l'Église, cependant elle s'intéressoit à son bien," admits the apologist. And although it may be true that she abhorred intolerance; that "when the king or some one else" spoke to her of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes she always expressed her opinion in favour of action "par voie d'insinuation," and, moreover, far from approving the subsequent rigours, was for long ignorant of them; that, when informed, she even did all she could to oppose them; it appears, on the other hand, to be undeniable that she did write a 'Mémoire' refuting an opinion given by certain bishops in 1698 in favour of a reversal of the policy of the Revocation. She also seems to have induced Louis to discourage the absence of bishops from their dioceses and their presence at Court.

A passage from her correspondence shows that Madame de Maintenon was under no illusion as to the character of much of the "religion" which had become fashionable at Court since the epoch of her own influence. She even permits herself to write of the Most Christian King himself:—

"Le Roi ne manquera pas à une station ni à une abstinence; mais il ne comprendra point qu'il faille s'humilier et prendre l'esprit d'une vraie pénitence."

How much of her own extraordinary humility was due to religious principle, how much to far-seeing policy, it is impossible to decide; but there can be no doubt of it as a fact. The same may be said for her devoted attachment to the person of the king, and her undoubted charity and accessibility to the poor. But her love of children may be credited to her without any deduction. Another trait, rare indeed in her sex, speaks more for her even than the good-natured Dauphin's testimony to her sincerity:—

"En un mot elle se faisoit toute à tous, et malgré cela, elle ne parloit jamais mal de personne, ne faisoit pas la moindre plaisanterie qui pût choquer, *et elle savoit si bien en imposer que jamais personne n'osoit tenir devant elle le moindre mauvais propos.*"

Upon the whole, there appears to us little reason to dissent from the judgment of the late Cotter Morison, who, in what it pleased him to style an "étude" on Madame de Maintenon, found "consummate common sense" to be her quality, and "watchful prudence" rather than ambition her motive of action.

We may mention in conclusion that the admirable portrait, recently discovered at Lyon, which is prefixed to this volume, represents Madame de Maintenon at the time of her marriage with the king. One slight error in an English name which occurs in an editorial note (p. 139) may be pointed out. Henri de Massue de Ruvigny, the Huguenot general who lost Almanza, was not "Comte de Galloway," but Earl of Galway.

NEW NOVELS.

That Fast Miss Blount. By Roy Horniman. (Fisher Unwin.)

The recorded conversation of Miss Blount is of a harmless, not to say insipid, description, and seems wholly at variance both with the epithet applied to her and the course of action by which she became entitled to it. The history of her experiences as the belle of a garrison town is readable, and sometimes amusing, yet the author's treatment of her character and surroundings causes us a continual sense of misused opportunities. Incidents which lead to nothing are perpetually introduced, and trivial details are developed at undue length, while only a few words of bald narrative are devoted to the important crises of the story. The author is as weak in grammar as in construction.

The Last Word. By Alice MacGowan. (Hutchinson & Co.)

The heroine of this work is a young journalist hailing from Texas, who finds her way to New York, and there conscientiously traverses the cycle of experiences appropriate to the "newspaper woman" of fiction. She straightway makes her mark in the columns of a first-class weekly, becomes engaged to the manager, throws him over on account of his pronounced views regarding the subjection of women in general and herself in particular, brings him to a better mind, and finally marries him on the gratifying understanding that she is to retain her profession and her independence, instead of "making sunshine" for his exclusive benefit. A more original, but even less convincing character is this lady's colleague, a Girton girl who is equally strong in classics, biology, and astronomy, all of which she renounces that she may give herself to the writing of fashion articles in the vain hope of winning a stony-hearted editor's affection. The story does not attain a high level as regards either substance or diction; but here and there stray passages indicate a capacity for better work.

Eileen. By Lucas Cleeve. (Long.)

EILEEN, the heroine, married Reginald, who was a baronet, and the right man, because his estate was next door to that of her father. There was trouble before they were happy, because she had velleities in the direction of the "smart set," and he was fond of an artful widow. The story is slight, and a terrible secret which is rather inartistically obtruded before it comes out is a matter of little moment. The narrative begins to be interesting, and shows some signs of experience in writing, when it fades out and leaves the reader wondering why more was not made of it. Most of the characters are shadowy, while the writer is occasionally above grammar, and has a most irritating faith in the present tense, which is over-used everywhere, and makes the thing bald instead of dramatic.

The Soul of Chivalry. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

THIS anonymous novel opens with a flourish of philosophy and the world, but its author, being undoubtedly young and unaffectedly sentimental, is unable to keep the tone. Chivalry rides through these pages, and no one is bad, not even a lord. He is only weak, which is, of course, according to the facts of human nature. We fear life is not so amiable an affair as the author would have us think. When Lord Newstead, who is heir to the great Duke of Essex, falls in love with a country maiden, the amour is attended with the usual results. Naught can come between life and happiness. It is all very pathetic in its idealism and its childishness, yet the story, as well as the writing, is not without its points. The sex of the writer, as well as her youth, is determinable everywhere, as, for example, in "His face was full of emotion, his beautiful eyes fixed on the spot where he thought she was"; or in this conversation at the wedding, which properly closes the tale:—

"'Who is that beautiful woman talking to Hugh Leycester?' asked Miss Wilbraham. 'That's Mrs. Charles Leycester—Madame Crellin that was—the great singer.' 'What a sweet face she has! I don't wonder the world went mad about her.' 'Which is the Duchess, mother?' asked Miss Tomkinson. 'Over there in grey.' 'How simple she looks.' 'Really great people generally do.'"

Oh, if all life were so simple and innocent as this!

A Tragic Contrast. By Mount Houmas. (Greening & Co.)

THE publishers are good enough to furnish us on the loose cover with a ready-made review of 'A Tragic Contrast.' We are informed that the plot is "carefully devised and full of interest"; also that "the author has worked out his scheme with art and honest labour." "Few readers," we are warned, "will be able to read the story of Claude Gwent unmoved"; but, fortunately, lest this should terrify the sentimental public, "before the last page is reached the sun is shining and 'all's right with the world!'" This being so, it seems a work of supererogation to offer any further criticism. For the sake of Mount Houmas, however, who may be assumed to be young and inexperienced, we would point out, in all humility, that continuity of interest is considered an essential in the "form" of a novel. The author here kills off almost all his characters half-way through the story, and leaves over two or three subsidiary persons of the drama to resume the tale, or rather to take up a new tale. This is not art, and it is also annoying. Mount Houmas we should judge to be capable of just indignation, and of being fired by generous emotions. But that equipment does not make a novelist, and in representing and handling the characters the author shows little or no observation of life.

The Blackmailer. By John Oakley. (Ward & Lock.)

ORTHODOX detective fiction has in these latter days been supplemented by less rigid representatives of the villain and criminal. In the old days he was black as to his moral complexion, and was mercilessly, but with many difficulties and evasions, hounded down to his last secret corner. The larger mind of the reading public has now, with more hospitable instincts, welcomed a different type. The villain of to-day may be only negroid; he may have weak spots in his criminality; he may even be good in parts. What is more, he may sometimes have a real character, which is more or less advertised by his actions. The old criminal, alas! like the bold, bad smuggler, is passing. The forger is now a gentleman who smokes imperial cigars in an exclusive club; the burglar has rooms in the Albany. The present ingenious blackmailer certainly belonged to a sort of club, for in Mr. Oakley's first chapter we discover him there. He is in possession of two pounds ten all told, but before we part with him that afternoon he has borrowed 100*l.* We must confess to a liking for him, partly founded on his impudence and dash, and partly on the other people's colourlessness. Nobody could be interested in Alderman Bagshawe, his son, or his daughter, or his friend. Moreover, the trick by which the worthy (or unworthy) alderman vanishes into a German disguise is so old as to be positively annoying. From the hour we recognize this fact, which is the precise moment of the disappearance, we lose all interest in his fortunes. The characters in the story are innocents; they cannot see a yard in front of their noses. They deserve the scorn of every self-respecting reader, who will therefore cling all the more fondly to the villain, and be in bad company, of course.

POLITICS AND POLITICIANS.

MR. HENRY W. LUCY, with the advantage of illustrations by Mr. Carruthers Gould, issues, under the title *Peeps at Parliament* (Newnes), a volume which deals with the sessions of the Liberal Parliament 1892-5. These sketches, which have once appeared—or at all events some of them—were well worthy of a more permanent form, and although evidently written day by day, in a period which began ten years ago, are fresh and interesting. The author is justified in prefixing to them the Greville note to the effect that they are left standing without softening or toning down by the light of altered conviction, as contemporary evidence of what was thought when they were written. Here and there the result is, of course, an exposure of mistakes; as, for example, when it is asserted that Mr. Courtney is to be nominated as the successor of Speaker Peel. But, on the whole, the judgments are remarkable for their soundness. The Courtney episode, indeed, illustrates the general truthfulness of Mr. Lucy's position, as it was only a few days before the election of Mr. Gully that it was discovered that the opposition of a few determined and leading Unionist members made the election of Mr. Courtney impossible. If we pick out points in which we do not wholly agree with Mr. Lucy, it is only because it is useless to express at greater length the pleasure which the reader derives from his book, and because in the case of personal matters—and the volume is nothing if not personal—differences are more interesting than agreement. We should not, for example, treat Sir H. Drummond Wolff as "the real creator of the Fourth Party," although agreeing with Mr. Lucy that Lord Randolph Churchill was not its inventor; but should ascribe to Sir John Gorst the honour of the invention. There are some points upon which it is probable that Mr. Lucy may be right and our memory wrong. But we believe that Mr. O'Connor Power's famous speech delivered in the House of Commons after it had been printed in the *Freeman's Journal* as spoken on the previous day was not, as Mr. Lucy thinks, spoken before the paper arrived. The magnificent courage of the orator was the more displayed if, as we think, the paper was in the hands of his friends at the moment when he spoke. In either case it is interesting to note other examples of speeches delivered after they had been seen in print, or seen in print and not delivered at all. Mr. W. E. Baxter, we believe, at the time when he was Secretary of the Treasury, made an important speech to his constituents in the Montrose Burghs, although they were holding in their hands copies of the *Scotsman* of the morning, which reported the speech as having been delivered the night before. One gentleman rose and said: "May I ask Mr. Baxter if the speech which he is about to deliver is that which I hold in my hand, and which, according to the *Scotsman*, he made yesterday?" To this remark no answer was vouchsafed, and the speech proceeded. On the other hand, Mr. Hugessen (afterwards Lord Brabourne) also, we believe, when holding subordinate ministerial office, was reported in the *Daily Telegraph* as having made an excellent speech at Hastings, which excited considerable interest in London, but on inquiry proved not to have been delivered, a circumstance of which there was never any public explanation. Mr. Lucy's verbal accuracy is sometimes at fault, but not, we think, on occasions where it matters, except for historians or sticklers for precedent. For example, the words which are set down as those which Black Rod ought to deliver to the House of Commons are right in substance, but wrong in form. We doubt whether any member of the House of Commons, often as they are heard, could repeat them; and we admit that the form in which, upon the Speaker's return, what has passed elsewhere is communicated by him to the House of Commons has itself changed in recent times. The memorable words in which Gladstone denounced Mr. Miall, and completed the alienation of the strong Dissenters in the Parliament which ended at the sudden election of 1874, are not very carefully reported in 'Hansard,' such was the fury with which they were delivered and received; but the version of them which we think holds the field against that quoted by Mr. Lucy is as follows: "If these be the conditions of the honourable member's confidence, for God's sake let him carry it elsewhere." In the new life of Mr. Chamberlain by Mr. Jeyes

there is another version which differs from Mr. Lucy's, but is more like than is that we give. We doubt whether there is authority for the use in regard to 1870 and 1886 of such phrases as "Tea-Room party" and "Tea-Room cabals." The Tea-Room of the great "Tea-Room Conspiracy" had ceased to be the tea-room, and had become a dining-room before the period mentioned in 1870. The one and only "Tea-Room Conspiracy" which properly bears that name in Parliamentary annals was the gathering of the more Radical members of the Liberal party when they decided not to support Gladstone in throwing out Mr. Disraeli's Reform Bill. That action, which carried the Bills of 1867 and 1868, had sufficiently important consequences to be worth recollection. The present Tea-Room is not by its nature suited to cabals or to the formation of sub-parties; and the meetings which have replaced the historic gatherings of 1867 have now long been held in Committee rooms. We doubt whether Mr. Lucy has authority for describing Mr. Henry Matthews as "sitting as Liberal member for Dungarvan" in 1873. We fancy that that gentleman, when returned by the Fenian vote, sat on the Tory side; and he certainly had nothing in common with the Whig members who represented many Irish constituencies at the time. "Ballykilbeg" was also, we think, not in 1873 "a Liberal," as he is called. We believe that it is only by a slip that there are used of Sir William Hart Dyke the words "Not yet Whip of the Liberal party," and that "Conservative" is intended. Sir Walter Foster is a knight, not a "baronet." Mr. Biggar, of whom we are perpetually reminded by this volume, which is full of his wise sayings and of pictured presentments of his face and figure, used to assert that he always in the House of Commons called every knight a baronet, because it saved trouble to make but one class, and also pleased the individual. A matter almost of historical importance, in view of the admirable life of Mr. Disraeli which appeared on the same day as Mr. Lucy's volume, concerns the place where Mr. Disraeli dined. Mr. Gladstone, by the way, seldom, however hurried, reached Downing Street by the "drive" here named, but almost always walked—or rather ran, such was the pace he set. We doubt, although with deference to Mr. Lucy's views, the statement as to Mr. Disraeli, "He did not habitually dine in the House." There is a table in the Ministerial dining-room which was commonly reserved by the turning up of all the chairs to prevent ordinary members from occupying them. Old stagers declare that in days of Conservative opposition, when no other ex-Minister would attend the House at 8 o'clock, Mr. Disraeli might be seen night after night dining alone at that table with all the other chairs turned up.

We are seldom amazed by "F. C. G." He is almost always perfect in his jokes and delineations; but, dealing as he here does with many members of the House of Commons much less known to him than those whom he now habitually portrays, he has been in an extraordinary degree successful. No doubt there are, as there must be, failures in the collection. The Disraeli drawn with a hat on and the title 'Asleep or Awake?' is undoubtedly awake, is horribly ugly, and is not Disraeli at all. Moreover, Disraeli seldom sat in the House of Commons with a hat, and when he assumed his alligator-like impassiveness was always divested of that object. On the other hand, the Disraeli of a few pages further on, toasting himself before the fire, is much better. There is a picture of Lord Randolph Churchill 'Stirring up Sir Stafford,' which contains the most lifelike portrait of the older of these former Conservative leaders of the House of Commons which we have ever seen. But with Sir Henry James, as he then was, Mr. Carruthers Gould has been less successful, and if the then tailor of that well-dressed statesmen should notice the set of the trousers and of the coat we think that an action for libel against "F. C. G." will be the result. Mr. Lucy tells us in the text that there are some public men with whom the caricaturist must of necessity fail, and that the best example is Mr. John Morley, "the despair of the caricaturist." "F. C. G." did not hit off Mr. Morley at first, but there are some of his drawings of that gentleman which are perfect. The picture of Mr. Gladstone in extreme old age, Sir William Harcourt, and Mr. Morley, entitled 'Mr. Gladstone and his Lieutenants,' is equally admirable of all three gentlemen, given the fact that it is caricature and not portraiture. In it Mr. Gladstone is not strong, Sir William Harcourt is not intellectual, and Mr. Morley is too clever by half. No person thus portrayed would be likely to be satisfied with his picture, but the delight of his friends would know no bounds; and the caricature as a whole is as good as caricature can be. So is the long picture called 'Obstruction,' in which it is difficult to say which of the obstructives is the most perfectly hit off. We are inclined to accord the first place to the portraits of Sir E. Ashmead Bartlett and Parnell; but the more exaggerated portraits of Mr. Biggar and Mr. Healy are in a different way as good; and in the eight figures only that of Lord Randolph Churchill is inferior to the highest possible level either of impressionist portraiture or of caricature. Many of the smaller figures elsewhere in the volume are almost equally good, as for example that of the Duke of Rutland. The old difficulty about Windsor uniform, one of the standing dishes of our contemporary, *Notes and Queries*, comes up again in this volume. Mr. Lucy alludes to the ministerial uniform as though it involved a "scarlet coat," a slip for blue; and Mr. John A. Bright writes in this volume in reply, "I see you say.....that my father wore a Windsor, or ministerial uniform," and points out that he wore a black velvet suit. The ministerial uniform is varied in the case of those below Cabinet rank who are of the King's household by scarlet cuffs. The Windsor uniform, as correspondents of *Notes and Queries* have often shown, is "the old twopenny postman" livery, of blue coat and red cuffs, without gold, peculiar to Windsor, and now no longer worn. The historical interest of Mr. Bright's real costume was that it was not exactly that worn by the law officers and ex-law officers of the Crown, but plainer, especially in the matter of buttons, which in other cases are of bright steel, and that this costume was peculiar to Mr. Bright. We have enjoyed our hours with Mr. Lucy and Mr. Gould, and heartily commend their volume to the public.

Mr. S. H. Jeyes has expanded a sketch of the life of *Mr. Chamberlain*, published a good many years ago, into a new book, issued by Messrs. Sands & Co., and an excellent work it forms, marked as it is by strong common sense. Although the volume contains, so far as we have noticed, but one revelation, yet careful observation has led Mr. Jeyes to go right where many other writers have gone wrong. The revelation, if it is one, does not directly concern Mr. Chamberlain. It deals with the preparation for war in the Transvaal by the Liberal Cabinet of 1894–5. It is possible, however, that the statement made has only been constructed from evidence which may be found in the minutes taken before the Royal Commission on the War in South Africa. As an example of the carefulness of Mr. Jeyes to be right where others have been wrong, we may mention his accurate description of Mr. Chamberlain's Irish National Council scheme of 1884. Mr. Jeyes, however, quotes without remark a description of the scheme by Mr. Chamberlain in a long-subsequent debate in which the word used is "Councils," in the plural; and the ultimate explanation that a similar Council to that for Ireland might have been created for Scotland, and one for Wales, is a long way off, and is possibly without foundation as regards the proposal of 1884. It is perhaps not quite accurate to say of the latter, as Mr. Jeyes does, "the proposal was rejected," *i.e.*, by the Cabinet, for it seems clear that the statements which have been made, and to which we have previously referred in noticing writings by Mr. Barry O'Brien on Parnell, and by Mr. Justin McCarthy, to the effect that the Cabinet was equally divided, and fell before a final decision had been taken, may be correct. Mr. Jeyes treats a little less fully than the writers we have named what he calls the outbidding of Mr. Chamberlain by the Conservatives. He is inclined to suggest that Lord Carnarvon acted only for himself and Lord Randolph Churchill. As we have pointed out in our previous reviews to which we refer, the pledge by Lord Randolph Churchill to Mr. Parnell, on the three points of inquiry into Lord Spencer's action with regard to the Joyce murders, no coercion, and a Viceroy favourable to Home Rule, was endorsed by Lord Salisbury before the Gladstone Administration was turned out by the joint vote of the two parties. The pledge as regards the first two points was definite, although temporary. The pledge on the third point was explained by Lord Salisbury not to go beyond willingness to inquire as to the extent of Home Rule possible. Home Rule, as Mr. Jeyes repeatedly shows with truth, was in those days a far more elastic expression than it afterwards became, and Mr. Chamberlain's limited scheme of a National Council without legislative powers and without an Irish Cabinet was at that time called Home Rule.

There is a striking portion of the book of Mr. Jeyes which has a special interest at this moment, because of its bearing on present circumstances. When Mr. Gladstone had to withdraw Mr. Chamberlain's Merchant Shipping Bill and to cover their retreat by "an inquiry," Mr. Chamberlain, according to Mr. Jeyes, informed Mr. Gladstone that he wished to resign office, and in a position of friendliness towards the Government, which would remain of his own opinion as to the importance of the change which he advocated, "to fight the whole question out on a public platform, and obtain an informal verdict from the country." Mr. Jeyes thinks that it was the opinion of Mr. Gladstone that "to let him loose as a free lance, however friendly he might be in his general intentions, was to invite defeat at the polls." In his long account of the difference between the Conservatives, partly supported by Lord Hartington, and the rest of the Government of which Lord Hartington was a member, on the subject of the extension of the franchise and a Redistribution Bill, Mr. Jeyes seems to suggest that the publication of the redistribution scheme by the *Standard* was designed by some one of those concerned in the negotiations. Mr. Jeyes states, we think wrongly, that the draft had been framed by a Committee of the Cabinet of only three members. He argues that it suited the Conservatives and the present Duke of Devonshire that the revelation should take place, the Duke of Devonshire being one of the three members of the Cabinet referred to. Mr. Jeyes does not add, what should have been added, that in an action brought by the printers whose contract had been terminated because of proof adduced that the copy of the scheme had reached the *Standard* from their office, it was universally admitted that no breach of confidence by any politician, private secretary, or Government clerk had occurred. Mr. Jeyes deals at length in the

last part of his book, which has evidently only just been written, with Mr. Chamberlain's opinions upon Protection. But there is a passage in the earlier portion of the volume which, though not strongly put, goes too far: "There was, perhaps, nothing in Mr. Chamberlain's expressed opinions to prevent him from favouring retaliation against hostile tariffs." Mr. Chamberlain's speeches, when President of the Board of Trade, between 1880 and 1883, which have been frequently quoted in the recent controversy, appear to us in contradiction to this statement. The matter is of no political importance, as much has passed and many circumstances have changed, but it is with the historical accuracy of Mr. Jeyes that we are concerned. We may mention at this point that the order in which subjects are treated is puzzling; but the index is good, so that, with patience, it is possible to find the passages which have to be brought together.

There are a good many small points on which exception might be taken, especially by party politicians, to phrases used by Mr. Jeyes, but they do not affect our general opinion of his fairness and moderation. He uses phrases which point to the existence in his mind of a strong opinion against the evacuation of Kandahar, especially on the ground that the evacuation showed a vacillation in British counsels which was harmful to the nation throughout the world. The case, however, for the evacuation was so strong, although not generally recognized at the time, that there are few, of whatever opinions, who have considered the matter in more recent times who doubt that the evacuation of Kandahar was wise. Mr. Jeyes stands almost alone in thinking that it threw away "what many experts thought the most solid result of the Afghan War." The policy of a united Afghanistan, kept together as long as possible to form a buffer state, has for a great number of years been approved by all. In his account of the Gordon relief expedition Mr. Jeyes discusses, as he does in his account of several other matters, questions which must be treated more fully by Mr. Morley in his forthcoming 'Life of Mr. Gladstone.' Mr. Jeyes says that the expedition "was ordered too late," and "was too slow in starting." It must, of course, be borne in mind that the decision to proceed by the Nile made it necessary to wait for high Nile. The question which Mr. Jeyes does not discuss, and which is material, is whether Lord Roberts is right in the opinion which he has constantly maintained, that an Indian expedition by Suakim and Berber was possible. Whether Mr. Morley will treat this side of the question we do not know. But on the assumption that a Nile expedition was alone possible, it is not easy to censure the delay. Mr. Morley is sure to discuss a connected matter which Mr. Jeyes has dealt with, namely, the refusal of the Government to employ Zebehr Pasha. Mr. Jeyes thinks that it was based on sentimental grounds: "He had been engaged in the slave trade!" The proceedings in the House of Commons at the time show that a vote of censure on the expected employment of the Pasha was set down by Mr. W. E. Forster, and it was confidently expected that it would be carried. A practical possibility of doing as Gordon wished did not, in other words, exist. It is perhaps a pity that Mr. Jeyes should have given much space to the Soudan question, in which Mr. Chamberlain does not seem to have played a part, and it is certain that what he has written must be superseded by the results of the controversy which is certain to arise on the appearance of Mr. John Morley's book. Mr. Jeyes states that the Cabinet found Gordon, and sent him out to hold Khartoum. It is, of course, already known from the Parliamentary Papers which have been published that Lord Granville found Gordon, that a committee of the Cabinet, of which Mr. Chamberlain was not a member, sent him out, but did not send him to Khartoum, and did not decide that Khartoum was to be held. The Cabinet, on the contrary, in accepting the decision of their Committee, sent Gordon to conduct the evacuation of Khartoum, and it was Gordon, after he had reached Egypt, who forced their hand, and was beyond reach of reply or of instructions when his full proposals came to London. Another matter in which Mr. Jeyes is open to criticism is where he goes out of his way to suggest that the Commune had something to do with upsetting the throne of Napoleon III.—a curious treatment of history:—

"The methods by which the throne of Napoleon III. had just been upset were far more cruel, and hardly more honest, than those by which it had been established and maintained. Many crimes in history have been more or less whitewashed, but a plausible vindication of the French Commune has yet to be written."

The treatment by Mr. Jeyes of the transactions which are known by the name "Majuba" forms a serious version of Mr. Gould's famous caricature of Mr. Chamberlain and the Duke of Devonshire—"We wos orful sinners once." It is doubtful whether Mr. Chamberlain would exactly endorse his statements. Here, however, we are again upon Mr. Morley's ground, so that renewed controversy this month is certain. Mr. Jeyes will find much more universal concurrence in his account of Mr. Chamberlain's triumph over the Workmen's Compensation Act, although we cannot admit that it is only the lawyers who threw "doubt and obscurity over an Act which to the lay mind had been perfectly clear and consistent." We do not know whether Mr. Jeyes is an expert on the subject, but we should have thought that the warnings which were general at the time of the passing of the Act as to the difficulties which must arise over such hastily amended parts of the Bill as those dealing with "undertakers" and sub-contracting represented the general view both of lawyers and of laymen. Neither is it the case, as our author thinks, that the Bill concerning the acquisition of workmen's houses "was not a measure which any member of Parliament with an eye to his constituents would venture to oppose." The Bill was one which, unlike the Workmen's Compensation Act, was always likely to be what it has been—a dead letter; and it was, as a fact, as actively opposed as its practical importance justified. The fame of Mr. Chamberlain as a bold contriver of new principles in domestic legislation will rest on the Workmen's Compensation Act.

This excellent book is remarkably free from mere mistakes; but there is one, unfortunately introduced into the words of Mr. Chamberlain as quoted from a speech, when he is made to say that a Frenchman acted the dramatic "parts he read as if he had just come from the Française."

SCHOOL-BOOKS.

Selected Letters of the Younger Pliny, edited by E. T. Merrill, is a welcome addition to Macmillan's "School Class-Books." Mr. Merrill has done his work thoroughly, basing his text on new and complete collations of most of the manuscripts he cites, and on a careful study of many others. The principles of his textual judgment, however, he rightly excludes from a school edition. But two points may be noted: our editor disagrees with Keil's estimate of the Dresden MS., and so far as the correspondence with Trajan is concerned, that is in Book X., he is impressed with the importance of the readings of the Bodleian MS. and notes discovered by Mr. Hardy. Naturally the selection draws chiefly on Book X., on the whole the most interesting part of the correspondence; but we note that Books I. and II. are also well represented. There is sufficient matter to show most of the peculiarities of Pliny's style. The notes are sound, and proportioned to the needs of any student except the Plinian specialist. The editor seems to us unnecessarily sensitive on one point. He thinks the introductory pages of a school edition an inappropriate place "for a display of the bleached and arid bones of his (the author's) grammatical and stylistic framework, laid out in classified order before the student's repugnant vision," and later professes to "have added, at some expense to my own feelings, a classified index to these matters." In the editor of a book of this standard no such sensitiveness is justified. If there is one thing which the student should carry away from the reading of a classic it is a just appreciation of style, and we think such classification as Mr. Merrill reprobates is a considerable help to this end. We would far rather see textual information shut out than stylistic summaries. Of Pliny's life and times and his official career, our editor gives in an introduction a careful and enlightening survey. On the personality of Pliny he is most interesting. Of his speeches Mr. Merrill, in a characteristically caustic moment, says: "The possession of only one of them, the 'Panegyric,' will go far toward solacing our griefs for the loss of the remainder." And similarly the next minute of his poetry: "Pliny loved poetry: and, as few men then or ever ought to do, he tried to write it. Naturally enough, he loved what he had written, but worse than that, he also admired it." *Pace* Mr. Merrill, the writing of poetry is *per se* a wholesome exercise; it is its publication that is a more doubtful proceeding. Pliny, it is true, hardly seems to have either sung or written as the linnet; but our editor certainly does not err on the side of leniency when he dismisses the poetry thus: "He has himself preserved to us one or two bits in his letters, and we can well spare the rest." Apart from occasional outbursts of a cheap irony the sketch is happy.

As the schools are again beginning we may call special attention to *Latin Hexameter Verse*, an aid to composition (Methuen & Co.), by Mr. S. E. Winbolt. The writer has had several years' experience as a teacher of the subject, and has tested the methods he here explains with success. The pauses, elisions, cæsura, and rhythm of the Virgilian hexameter are examined carefully with statistics, and exercises, from a few lines to complete pieces, are interspersed, a "key" to these being available for teachers. Other Latin authors are quoted for purposes of comparison with Virgil, though Horace, we should have thought, is too near to prose and too careless to be commended to the student even occasionally. Some things mentioned are debatable, and some conclusions may seem fanciful, but we feel sure that the book, carefully used, will increase the young composer's taste and marks with rapidity.

Survey of English Ethics, by W. E. H. Lecky, edited, with an Introduction, by Mr. Hirst (Longmans), is a reprint of the first chapter of Mr. Lecky's 'History of European Morals,' designed for the beginner or those who desire to pursue some subject of liberal culture in their hours of leisure. Mr. Hirst is, in our opinion, amply justified in saying that for such purposes a portion of a standard work is far more stimulating than an epitome. His own introduction and the 'Biographical Index of Philosophers' at the close are admirably adapted for the necessary explanation. Clearly and simply written, it yet betrays grasp of the main principles of different schools, and ought to make the subject intelligible to the least instructed. The

only fault we have to find is that the last two pages read too much like a sermon.

Errors in English Composition, by J. C. Nesfield (Macmillan), consists chiefly of examples in which faults are to be corrected. Mr. Nesfield is no new hand at his subject, and puts an unerring finger on many instances of loose writing as well as actual error. We should not endorse all his rules, as they would destroy the freedom of the language, and those constructions by sense rather than verbal logic which modify also sterner grammars than the English. Brevity, too, where the sense is clear, may make differences, and subtlety may justify apparent misuses of "but" for "and," for instance. Still, for the student the work is excellent. As to the split infinitive, Mr. Nesfield probably knows—what he does not say—that it is a pretty ancient "innovation." He only quotes a passage from the late Sir W. Hunter for its use in "literature." We would not commend it; at the same time we may point out that it occurs both in 'Diana of the Crossways' and 'Two on a Tower.'

Das Edle Blut. Von Ernst von Wildenbruch. Edited by Otto Siepmann. (Macmillan & Co.)—This recent addition to "Siepmann's German Series" is unusually good. Wildenbruch is in many respects a suitable author for the class-room, as youthful readers are likely to appreciate his merits, and will not be offended by his defects, and 'Das Edle Blut' is one of the most attractive of his shorter stories. Its value as a text-book is increased by the fact that it is natural in style and thoroughly German in tone, and that much of it is instructively colloquial and idiomatic. Mr. Siepmann adds a brief sketch of Wildenbruch's life in his introduction, and the book is also supplied with a vocabulary, notes, and exercises.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Highways and Byways. By Inglis Allen. (Constable & Co.)—Most of Mr. Allen's sketches of the metropolis appeared in *Punch*, and consequently may be familiar to many readers. On the whole, they were worth putting on record in a permanent form, as they are the work of a humorous observation. Since Anstey's 'Voces Populi' many imitators have appeared, of whom Mr. Pett Ridge has proved, perhaps, the most popular and successful. This sort of work is almost as distinctive an art as, say, is the art of miniature, or that of caricature. It is of a snapshot order, yet must have form and an organic development. It would be almost impossible to give the formula for it, and we have no intention of trying. But if any one will read half a dozen of Mr. Allen's best efforts here he will "get the hang" of the idea, and, maybe, start writing on his own account. This is to say that the thing is fairly easily done after a fashion, but it is not to say that at its best it is not at once very good and very hard to do. So much elimination is necessary, so much elision, so much *leitotes*, that before you are done with your material you have had to use valuable mental qualities and properties of taste. Mr. Allen does not always come off, but he is generally witty, often humorous. Thus the episode which opens the volume, 'The Last Bus,' tickles a reader because it is faithful to the moving life of London, and, further, has a development. On the other hand, 'The Suicide' is a mere snapshot, candidly observed, and practically related, but passing through no artistic alchemy. It is clear from the author's confession, as well as from his work, that he regards the lower classes with cynical hostility; but his point of view matters nothing at all, as far as his art is concerned, except that it has limited his field of observation and satire. It is probable that Mr. Allen will develope his qualities, and may evolve others. Humour, whether of satiro or of sentiment, is always welcome.

Mr. Gosse has written a sympathetic introduction of some length to Penn's *Some Fruits of my Solitude* (Constable). He says that it was difficult to get a copy in London, but with his recommendation, which includes some warm praise from Stevenson, this booklet may well become known again as a solace to the thoughtful. Certain it is that modern purveyors of maxims do not equal the old hands in powers of expression or conviction.

With four volumes containing *Christmas Stories*, *The Uncommercial Traveller*, *Our Mutual Friend*, and *Master Humphrey's Clock and Edwin Drood* the "Fireside Edition" of Dickens has been brought to a close. The enterprise of Messrs. Chapman & Hall and Mr. Frowde ought to reap a substantial reward from this very cheap, yet adequate edition in twenty-two volumes.

In *Tommy Wideawake* (Lane) Mr. H. H. Bashford exhibits four middle-aged bachelors, residing in the same village, suddenly saddled with the collective responsibility of bringing up a small boy; whose father, a widower and their old friend, has been killed in an Indian frontier war. His holidays are allotted to each in turn, and Mr. Bashford chronicles the more important events of some of them. With considerable skill and humour Tommy is shown educating his elders as much as, or possibly more than, he is educated by them. The poet is compelled to descend from the congenial clouds, and is rewarded for his return to *terra firma* by winning the heart of the blue-eyed Irish governess of Tommy's playmate and future bride. The philosopher loses his aimlessness, and the doctor resumes his cricket. Tommy is a healthy, open-air boy, not overburdened with brains, but with a certain spirituality, which, increasing as he grows up, distinguishes him from the ruck. The lesser characters and the descriptions of English country life are conventional enough, but they are easily compensated by the charm and freshness of the central figure. It should be pointed out that "in media vitæ, sumus in morte" (*sic*) is not the Latin original of the familiar quotation from the Burial Service.

We are glad to have in Messrs. Isbister's "Standard Abridgments" *Boswell's Johnson*, though we think the volume is overweighted with an introduction and no fewer than three appreciations by the eminent. The selection is well indexed, and contains plenty of good things, though it surprises us occasionally. For instance, there was excellent talk when Johnson met Edwards, an old college friend. Edwards said the best thing: "You are a philosopher, Dr. Johnson. I have tried too, in my time, to be a philosopher; but, I don't know how, cheerfulness was always breaking in." Boswell adds:—

"Mr. Burke, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Mr. Courtenay, Mr. Malone, and, indeed, all the eminent men to whom I have mentioned this, have thought it an excellent trait of character."

Mr. G. Nugent Bankes and Mr. Hinchcliffe Huggins, editors and abridgers, carefully omit the passage and the comment, though they continue with the next sentence. We wonder why!

In *The Homely Virtues* (Hodder & Stoughton) Dr. John Watson has given us eight little addresses on the merits of ordinary people which are full of sound sense, and, unlike many sermons, attractive reading.

Messrs. Methuen send us six paper volumes of their new sixpenny edition of Dumas. To Mr. Lang's introduction to *The Three Musketeers* reference has already been made. The print is good, and we advise all who do not know Dumas to read him at once. He varies, of course, but there is always his inimitable *verve* as a storyteller to commend him, so we are glad to see untranslated books of his made available in the cheapest form.

The first number of the *Independent Review* (Fisher Unwin) makes an excellent start. The type is large and easy to read, while the contributors include older men of authority as well as the younger spirits. There are some capable signed reviews of books, and an appeal by Mommsen concerning the relations between England and Germany. The review should rapidly make its mark, as it deserves.

The first number of the *Scottish Historical Review* (MacLehose) also has every promise of success. Prof. Raleigh opens with a most interesting article, which is illustrated, on the 'Lives of Authors,' collections like those of Isaak Walton, Aubrey, and Johnson. The number fulfils its purpose of being interesting to a wide circle beyond the antiquary who is, it need hardly be said, catered for by first-rate authorities. Its general appearance is sober, but comely.

We have on our table *The Grand Duchy of Finland*, by the Author of 'A Visit to the Russians in Central Asia' (Fisher Unwin), —*Transactions of the Jewish Historical Society of England*, Vol. IV., 1899-1901 (Macmillan),—*The Geology of the Country around Torquay*, by W. A. E. Ussher (Wyman & Sons),—*The Girl's Realm Annual, 1903* (Bousfield),—*Free Soil, Free Soul*, by L. Cleeve (Digby & Long), —*The Tenant of the Grange*, by M. Gerard (Cassell),—*The King's Yard*, by W. Jeffery (Everett), — *Settling Day*, by A. Hurry (Chapman & Hall),—*The Yellow Crayon*, by E. P. Oppenheim (Ward & Lock),—*A Queer Affair*, by Guy Boothby (F. V. White),—*The Song at Midnight, Poems*, by Mary M. Adams (Brown, Langham & Co.),—*Rex Christus, an Outline Study of China*, by A. H. Smith (Macmillan),—and *Rational Religion: some Addresses to Men*, by the Rev. H. T. Knight (Rivingtons). Among New Editions we have *The History of Henry Esmond*, by W. M. Thackeray (Methuen),—*David Copperfield*, by C. Dickens (A. & C. Black),—and *Neue Gedichte*, by A. Pfungst (Berlin, Dummler).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Matheson (G.), Representative Men of the Bible, cr. 8vo, 6/
Sermon on the Mount, a Practical Exposition, by various Authors, cr. 8vo, 4/6 net.
Smith (H. P.), Old Testament History, 8vo, 12/
Snell (B. J.), Sermons on Immortality and other Subjects, cr. 8vo, 2/6 net.
Stretton (H.), Parables of our Lord, cr. 8vo, 3/6

Fine Art and Archæology.

Gibson Calendar, 1904, 4to, 10/6 net.

Poetry and the Drama.

Lamb (C.), Specimens of English Dramatic Poets, edited by W. Macdonald, 2 vols. cr. 8vo, 7/ net.
Mantzius (K.), History of Theatrical Art, Translation by L. von Cossel, Vols. 1 and 2, roy. 8vo, 20/ net.

Bibliography.

Book-Prices Current, Vol. 17, 8vo, 27/6

History and Biography.

Collingwood (W. G.), Ruskin Relics, imp. 8vo, 10/6
Martin (S.), Izaak Walton and his Friends, roy. 8vo, 10/6 net.
Parker (E. H.), China Past and Present, 8vo, 10/6 net.
Ruvigny and Raineval (Marquis of), Blood Royal of England, imp. 8vo, 84/ net; large-paper edition, 210/ net.
Wallis (C. B.), Advance of our West African Empire, 21/

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Hutton (L.), Literary Landmarks of Oxford, cr. 8vo, 5/ net.
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FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bardenhewer (O.), Geschichte der altkirchlichen Literatur, Vol. 2, 11m. 40.

Fine Art and Archæology.

Migeon (G.), L'Exposition des Arts Musulmans au Musée des Arts Décoratifs, 100fr.
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Vogüé (E. M. de), Le Maître de la Mer, 3fr. 50.

AN UNRHYMED SONNET.—BY S. T. COLERIDGE?

Amongst the many school-books of poetry which appeared in the early years of the last century there is one the contents of which, despite the notoriety of the compiler as a friend of Coleridge and Southey, have somehow contrived to elude the modern editor's "inevitable" eye. I refer to the volume entitled 'A Selection of Poems, designed chiefly for Schools and Young Persons,' put together by Joseph Cottle, and published in 1805 by Johnson of St. Paul's Churchyard. The selections extend to 360 pages small octavo, and include verses by A. L. Barbauld, W. L. Bowles, T. Campbell, S. T. Coleridge, Joseph Cottle, W. Crowe, C. Lloyd, Hannah More, Amelia Opie, S. Rogers, Charlotte Smith, R. Southey, and Wordsworth. Coleridge is represented by three pieces, of which two, viz., 'The Epitaph on an Infant' ("Ere sin could blight," &c.) and 'Domestic Peace,' a song from 'The Fall of Robespierre,' 1794, appeared in the 'Poems on Various Subjects,' 1796, and one, the sonnet 'To the River Otter,' in the 'Poems' (second edition), 1797. Besides these there is an unrhymed sonnet 'To Poverty,' which, on the evidence alike of style and contents, may with great probability be assigned to Coleridge. Observe that in the sonnet three examples of lettered poverty are given, Spenser, Butler, and Otway. Of these Butler and Otway are named in the same connexion in the earliest (1790), and Spenser and Otway in the latest (1829) version of the 'Monody on the Death of Chatterton.' The sonnet, a transcript of which is subjoined, will be found on p. 198 of Joseph Cottle's 'Selections.' It is headed

TO POVERTY.

Low in a barren vale I see thee sit
Cow'ring, while Winter blows his shiv'ring blast,
Over thy reedy fire—pale comfortless!
Blest Independence with elastic foot
Spurns thy low dwelling, whilst the sons of joy
Turn from thy clouded brow, or with a scowl,
Contemptuous, mark thee. At thy elbow stand
Famine and wan Disease! two meagre forms,
Thy only visitants, who, tho' repelled,
Officious tend thee—wretched Eremite!
Around thy cell, ah! wherefore see I grav'd
The sacred names of genius? Spencer here
Found his last refuge! Otway! Butler, too,
And Scotia's last not least heroic Bard!

R. A. Potts.

THE GENEALOGY OF 'THE THREE MUSKETEERS.'

Sare, Basses Pyrénées, September 28th, 1903.

Your kindly mention of my name in the *Athenæum* attributes to me merits to which I have no claim. The genealogy of 'Les Trois Mousquetaires' is carefully drawn out by M. J. B. E. de Jaurgain in the *Revue de Béarn*, 1883, 1884, and by the Abbé P. Haristoy in vol. ii. of his 'Recherches Historiques sur le Pays Basque,' 1883. I simply lent these books to M. G. Deschamps, who has made such interesting use of them. I am M.A. only, and have no right to the title of Dr.

Wentworth Webster.

THE COMING PUBLISHING SEASON.

The following books are in preparation at the Clarendon Press:—In Theology and Philology: An Italian Version of the lost Apocryphal Gospel of Barnabas, edited by Canon Ragg,—The Coptic Version of the New Testament, in the Northern Dialect, Vols. III. and IV.,—Samaritan Liturgies, edited by A. Cowley,—An Ethiopic Text of the Book of Enoch, edited by the Rev. R. H. Charles,—Eusebii Chronicorum Liber, reproduced, with introduction by J. K. Fotheringham and C. H. Turner,—The Mimes of Herodas, edited by the Rev. J. A. Nairn,—Horace: Satires, Epistles, and De Arte Poetica, with commentary by E. C. Wickham, school edition,—Collations of Cicero, by A. C. Clark,—in the "Oxford Classical Texts": Platonis Opera, Vol. III., edited by J. Burnet; Demosthenis Orationes, Vol. I., edited by S. H. Butcher; Euripidis Tragœdiæ, Vol. II., edited by G. G. A. Murray; Plauti Comœdiæ, Vol. I., edited by W. M. Lindsay; and Ciceronis Orationes, in Catilinam, &c., edited by A. C. Clark,—A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament, edited by F. Brown, S. R. Driver, and C. A. Briggs, Part XI.,—The Vedânta-Sûtras, with Râmânuja's Śribhâshya, translated by G. Thibaut,—and Catalogue of the Sanskrit and Prâkrit MSS. in the Library of the Indian Institute, Oxford, compiled by A. B. Keith. General Literature, English and Modern Languages: The Letters of Horace Walpole, edited by Mrs. P. Toynbee in a special limited edition, 16 vols., on Oxford India paper 8 vols., and on ordinary paper 16 vols.,—Selections from Gower's Confessio Amantis, for school use, edited by G. C. Macaulay,—More's Utopia, edited by J. C. Collins,—The Socratic Dialogues of Plato, Jowett's translation, with introduction by E. Caird,—Elizabethan Critical Essays, 1570–1603, edited by G. Gregory Smith, 2 vols.,—An Examination of the Shelley Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, a collation by C. D. Locock,—Shelley's Adonais, edited by W. M. Rossetti, a new edition,—Studies in Dante, Third Series, by E. Moore,—Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, illustrated by George Cruikshank, a limited edition,—Gemme della Letteratura Italiana, selected and edited by J. F. Bingham,—The Songs of Robert Burns, printed with the melodies for which they were written, edited by J. C. Dick,—Poems of Keats in the "Oxford Miniature Poets,"—The Bride's Mirror, translated from the Hindustani by G. E. Ward,—A New English Dictionary, portions of Vols. VI., VII., and VIII.,—The English Dialect Dictionary, parts of Vols. V. and VI.,—and A Translation of Horace, by E. C. Wickham. In History and Science: Sources for Roman History, B.C. 133–70, collected and arranged by A. H. J. Greenidge and Miss A. M. Clay,—Asser's Life of King Alfred, with the Annals of Saint Neot's, edited by W. H. Stevenson, 2 vols.,—The Policraticus of John of Salisbury, edited by C. C. J. Webb, 2 vols.,—Lucas's Introduction to an Historical Geography of the British Colonies, revised by H. E. Egerton,—Cáin Adamnáin, edited by Kuno Meyer,—Selected Drawings from the University Galleries and the Library at Christ Church, Part I., chosen and described by Sidney Colvin,—The Oxford History of Music; Vol. V., The Romantic Period, by E. Dannreuther,—The Theory of Continuous Groups, by J. E. Campbell,—Notes on Analytical Conics, by A. C. Jones,—The Logic of Arithmetic, by Mrs. Mary Boole,—Index Kewensis Plantarum Phanerogamarum, Supplement II., by T. Durand and B. D. Jackson,—Goebel's Organography of Plants, English edition, by I. B. Balfour, Vol. II.,—Pfeffer's Physiology of Plants, translated by A. J. Ewart, Vol. II.,—and Plant Geography upon a Physiological Basis, by the late Dr. Schimper, English edition by Prof. W. R. Fisher, revised by Prof. Percy Groom, in 4 parts.

Messrs. Longman's autumn list includes: The Master of Gray, by H. C. Bailey,—The Silesian Horseherd, answered by Max Müller, translated by O. A. Fechter,—Climbs and Explorations in the Canadian Rockies, by H. E. M. Stutfield and J. N. Collie,—The Sea Shore, by W. S. Furneaux,—The Church Catechism, by the Rev. W. C. E. Newbolt,—In Search of Home, by Phyllis O. Dent,—"Harvard Studies in Classical Philology," Vol. XIV., Greenough Memorial,—The Thomson Yates and Johnston Laboratory Report, edited by R. Boyce and C. S. Sherrington, Vol. V. Part I.,—Catalogue of Birds' Eggs in the British Museum (Natural History), Vol. III., by E. W. Oates,—A Monograph of the Culicidæ, by F. V. Theobald, Vol. III.,—The American Revolution, by Sir G. O. Trevelyan, Part II.,—Three Frenchmen in Bengal, by S. C. Hill,—Ledger and Sword, by Beckles Willson, 2 vols.,—The History of Twenty-five Years, by Sir Spencer Walpole, 2 vols.,—The Valet's Tragedy and other Studies, by A. Lang,—A Social History of Ancient Ireland, by P. W. Joyce, 2 vols.,—Snipe and Woodcock, by R. de V. Shaw and R. J. Ussher,—A Queen of Tears: Caroline Matilda, by W. H. Wilkins,—a new edition of Freeman's Historical Geography of Europe, edited by J. B. Bury,—Creighton's Lectures and Addresses, edited by L. Creighton,—South Africa after the War, by E. F. Knight,—Lectures to Business Men, by Prof. W. J. Ashley,—Slipper's A B C of Fox Hunting, by E. Œ. Somerville,—Poemata, by G. R. Woodward,—Steam Boilers, by H. de B. Parsons,—Queries in Ethnography, by A. G. Keller,—Education as Adjustment, by M. V. O'Shea,—Political Theories of the Ancient World, by W. W. Willoughby,—Problems and Persons, by W. Ward,—Life and Letters of T. T. Carter, edited by the Rev. W. H. Hutchings,—Studies of Childhood, by James Sully, a new edition,—Actual Government under American Conditions, by A. B. Hart,—Memoirs of a Child, by Annie S. Winston,—Longman's Church Registers, edited by the Rev. S. Scragg,—Christian Thal, by M. E. Francis,—The Golliwogg's Circus, by F. K. and B. Upton,—The Crimson Fairy Book, edited by A. Lang,—Bold Turpin, with illustrations by L. D. Luard,—First Lessons in Observational Geometry, by Mrs. W. N. Shaw,—Grammar Lessons by the Principal of St. Mary's Hall, Liverpool,—and Longman's New Supplementary Readers, in four books.

Messrs. Blackwood & Sons announce: William Wetmore Story and his Friends, by Henry James,—Thackeray, by C. Whibley,—The Bayard of India, a Life of Outram, by Capt. L. J. Trotter,—Practical Nursing, Vol. II., by Isla Stewart and H. E. Cuff,—a new edition of Bon Gaultier's Book of Ballads, with introduction by Sir Theodore Martin,—

Personalia, by Sigma,—The Dark Ages, by Prof. W. P. Ker,—Local Government, by Mabel Atkinson,—The Licensing Acts (Scotland) Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1903, annotated by J. M. Dodds and Ewan Macpherson,—Biographia Philosophica, by Alexander C. Fraser,—A History of European Thought in the Nineteenth Century, by J. T. Merz, Vol. II.,—A History of Mediæval Political Theory in the West, by R. W. Carlyle and A. J. Carlyle, Vol. I. by A. J. Carlyle,—The Story of the World Readers, by M. B. Synge, in five volumes,—A First Latin Reader, by K. P. Wilson,—Our Regiments in South Africa, 1899–1902, by John Stirling,—A New Theory of Evolution, by James W. Barclay,—Matriculation Roll of St. Andrews University, edited by J. M. Anderson,—Prayers for Sailors and Fisher-Folk,—Points of a Racehorse, by Sir John Hills,—The Book of Common Prayer (1637), edited by the Rev. James Cooper. Fiction: Katherine Frensham, by Beatrice Harraden,—Our Lady's Inn, by J. S. Clouston,—The Boy Galloper, by the author of 'On the Heels of De Wet,'—For the White Rose, by W. Carey,—Barbara Winslow, Rebel, by Beth Ellis,—The Young Gerande, by Edmund White,—and new editions of The Circle, A Burgher Quixote, The Advanced Guard, and Hints on Golf, by Horace Hutchinson.

Mr. Nutt is publishing: In "The Tudor Translations," The English Bible, Vols. V. and VI.,—The One Strand River, and other Fairy Tales, by Mrs. H. F. Hall,—"Grimm Library," Vol. XVI., The Cattle Raid of Cualgne, translated by Winifred Faraday,—Sir Gawain at the Grail Castle, three versions translated by Jessie L. Weston,—La Luite Tristan, edited by the same and J. Bédier,—An Irish-English Dictionary, compiled and edited by the Rev. S. P. Dineen,—An English-Irish Dictionary, compiled by T. O'Neill Lane,—Gerald the Welshman, by Henry Owen,—The Writings of St. John as read by the Early Christians, edited and translated by A. N. Jannaris, Vol. I.,—The Hundred Love Songs of Kamal ad-Din of Ispahan, translated by Ethel W. Mumford, a limited issue,—The Nibelungenlied and Gudrun in England and Germany, by F. E. Sandbach,—a new edition of The Letters of a Portuguese Nun, translated by Prestage,—Rigel, an Autumn Mystery, by C. F. Keary,—Series of Short French Readers: Dumas, Jacomo, edited by F. W. Walton; Antoine Galland, Sinbad le Marin, edited by C. Penney; Daudet, Contes Choisis, edited by W. Rolleston; Sandeau, Episodes from La Roche aux Mouettes, edited by De V. Payen-Payne; Gérard de Nerval, Voyage en Orient, edited by A. E. Twentyman; Erckmann-Chatrian, La Pêche Miraculeuse, and other Stories, edited by R. H. Allpress; Moreau, Lettres à ma Sœur, edited by W. G. Lipscomb; and René Caillié, Tombouctou, edited by E. P. Ash,—Nutt's Pocket Dictionaries,—and Colloquial Spanish in "Swan's Phonetic Series."

Mr. R. Brimley Johnson's autumn announcements include: The Trackless Way, by S. Rentoul Esler,—Table-Talk of Samuel Rogers, collected by G. H. Powell,—A Versatile Professor, reminiscences by the Rev. Cecil White,—Mrs. Piper and the Society for Psychical Research, by M. Sage, translated by N. Robertson,—The Food of the Gods, a Popular Account of Cocoa, by M. C. Berry,—The Papers of the Patriots' Club, by G. K. Chesterton, C. F. G. Masterman, the Rev. Conrad Noel, Reginald Bray, and R. C. K. Ensor,—Fiscal Faiths, by A. C. Pigou,—Consider the Children, by Honnor Morten,—Verses, by Ethel Wheeler,—Modern Poems, by R. C. K. Ensor. Children's Books, illustrated: The Romance of a Boo Bird Chick, by Phyllis M. Gotch; I've Seen the Sea, and Lords and Ladies, by A. and S. Sharpley; and the Runaways, by Mary S. Buckland. Reprints of Talpa, by C. W. Hoskyns, with illustrations by George Cruikshank,—and The Bagman's Story, by Dickens.

Messrs. Bemrose & Sons announce the following: A Brief History of Old English Porcelain and its Manufactories, by M. L. Solon,—Black Jacks and Leather Bottles, by Oliver Baker,—Memorials of Old Oxfordshire, edited by P. H. Ditchfield,—The Registers of the Parish of Askham, copied by Mary E. Noble,—Matlock Manor and Parish, by Benjamin Bryan,—Flora of Derbyshire, by the Rev. Wm. R. Linton,—The Dogs of St. Bernard, compiled by Frank D. Grey,—The Official Report of the Church Congress, Bristol, 1903,—T. B. B., a Story of Real Life,—Beautiful Biskra, by C. Howard Tripp,—The Clergyman's Ready Reference Diary and Calendar, 1904, and other almanacs and calendars,—new editions of Bemrose's Railway Rate Book, and Railway Maximum Rates and Charges, by M. B. Cotsworth,—and The Private Nurse's Own Note-Book, by Sister Eva.

Messrs. Seeley & Co. announce: London on Thames in Bygone Days, by G. H. Birch,—Greek Story and Song, by the Rev. A. J. Church,—An Old London Nosegay, by Beatrice Marshall,—Under Cheddar Cliffs, by Edith Seeley,—Temptation and Escape, by Bishop H. C. G. Moule,—and new editions of The Celestial Country, Hymns and Poems,—The Burning of Rome, by the Rev. A. J. Church,—Under Salisbury Spire, by Mrs. Marshall,—and The Story of the Æneid, by the Rev. A. J. Church.

Mr. John Long's autumn list includes:—Fiction: The Other Mrs. Jacobs, by Mrs. Campbell Praed,—Sly Boots, by John Strange Winter,—Remembrance, by Mrs. Lovett Cameron,—Partners Three, by May Crommelin,—Delphine, by Curtis Yorke,—The Silver Bullet, by Fergus Hume,—The Iron Hand, by J. M. Cobban,—His Master Purpose, by H. Bindloss,—The Island of Sorrow, by George Gilbert,—Slaves of Passion, by Helen Bayliss,—Malincourt Keep, by Adeline Sergeant,—The Gate of Never, by G. G. Chatterton,—Little Nurse Charlotte, by L. T. Meade,—Countess Ida, by F. Whishaw,—A Criminal Crœsus, by George Griffith,—Four Red Roses, by Sarah Tytler,—In Steel and Leather, by R. H. Forster,—Entrapped, by Alice M. Diehl,—Devastation, by Mrs. C. Kernahan,—Toy Gods, by Percival Pickering,—George Savile, by a new writer,—A Canadian Girl, by Col. A. Haggard,—The Trust Trappers, by Hume Nisbet,—The Lady of the Island, by Guy Boothby,—Told in "Tatt's," by N. Gubbins,—The Chaser's Luck, by "G. G.,"—in the "Library of Modern Classics," edited by Hannaford Bennett: The Three Clerks, by Anthony Trollope; The Cloister and the Hearth; The Woman in White; Westward Ho; Adam Bede; and Esmond,—The Land of the Khedive, by L. Felbermann,—The Divine Aretino, and other Plays, by Robert South,—Idylls of the North, by R. H. Forster,—and Daily Pickings from Pickwick, arranged by Florence Dalgleish.

Messrs. S. W. Partridge & Co. are publishing the following: The Complete Bible in Modern English, by Ferrar Fenton,—Stephen Grey, by Letitia Coster,—More than Money, by A. St. J. Adcock,—The Firebrands of the Caspian, by F. M. Holmes,—A Desert Scout, by W. Johnston,—Cormorant Crag, by G. M. Fenn,—A Young Man's Mind, by J. A. Hammerton,—The Romance of the Bible, by C. F. Bateman,—Neta Lyall, by F. E. Berry,—Robert Aske, by E. F. Pollard,—John Burleigh's Sacrifice, by Mrs. C. Garnett,—The Lion City of Africa, by W. B. Allen,—Stepping Heavenward, by E. Prentiss,—Bunyan's Folk of To-day, by the Rev. J. R. Howatt,—Sunday Afternoons with my Scholars, by J. Attenborough,—The Lady of the Chine, by M. S. Haycraft,—Carola's Secret, by E. F. Heddle,—Miss Elizabeth's Niece, by M. S. Haycraft,—The Man of the House, by "Pansy,"—Robin the Rebel, by H. L. Bedford,—Runaway Rollo, by E. M. Stooke,—Granny's Girls, by M. B. Manwell,—Mousey, by E. H. Stooke,—The Two Stephensons, by J. Alexander,—Ruth's Roses, by L. A. Barter-Snow,—In Paths of Peril, by J. M. Oxley,—Pets and their Wild Cousins, by the Rev. J. Isabell,—The Armour of Life, edited by J. A. Hammerton,—Grandmother's Child, by Annie S. Swan,—His Majesty's Beggars, by M. E. Ropes,—Gerald's Dilemma, by Emma Leslie, and other books for the young,—The Wide, Wide World, and other reprints,—and in "The New Century Leaders" Series: W. Robertson Nicoll, by Jane Stoddart; and J. R. Campbell, by C. T. Bateman.

Literary Gossip.

Mr. Conrad and Mr. F. M. Hueffer, the authors of 'The Inheritors: an Extravagant Story,' have written a new volume, entitled 'Romance: a Novel.' The hero of the tale is a young Englishman from Kent, who finds it convenient, in the second decade of the nineteenth century, to make for the West Indies, in consequence of an escapade at home. There he drifts across an old grandee and his granddaughter, and has strange adventures in one of the Spanish settlements. He succeeds in extricating from peril the heroine, to whom he is married in curious circumstances; but he is arrested by English sailors in mistake for a pirate, and has to stand his trial at the Old Bailey. Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. will issue the book on the 20th inst.

A 'Life of Voltaire' for the general reader will be published by the same firm on the 15th inst. The author is S. G. Tallentyre, who collaborated with Henry Seton Merriman in 'The Money Spinner, and other Character Notes.' The work is in two volumes, and contains some striking illustrations, including two photogravures.

Mr. Edward Jenks's volume on 'Parliamentary England (1660–1832)' will be published by Mr. Fisher Unwin in the "Story of the Nations" series on the 12th inst. Its frontispiece will be a portrait of Charles James Fox, after a hitherto unpublished sketch by Lady Diana Beauclerk. On the same day Mr. Unwin will publish a volume by the Hon. A. S. G. Canning, author of 'British Power and Thought,' &c., entitled 'Shakespeare studied in Eight Plays,' and also Mr. Alfred Dickeson's 'Tychiades: a Tale of the Ptolemies.'

Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co. will publish at the end of this month a new volume of poems by Lady Lindsay, entitled 'From a Venetian Balcony,' which will be illustrated by Miss Clara Montalba with some pen-sketches of Venice. The issue will be limited to 500 copies on hand-made paper and 100 copies on Japanese vellum.

In Mr. Morley's 'Life of Gladstone' each of the three volumes contains about 650 pages, in which are included appendixes and index. Foot-notes are few and brief. The first volume (closing in 1859, when Gladstone was Chancellor of the Exchequer under Lord Palmerston) covers

fifty years of life, and has for its central interest the Oriel College movement, and, generally, theology and religion. The second covers twenty years, to the close of the Midlothian campaign and return to office in 1880. Here finance is prominent, but the main theme is Gladstone's relation to the Liberal politics of continental Europe. The third volume, in spite of the episodes of South Africa and Egypt, is dominated by Ireland, and differs from the others in that Mr. Morley is here the accredited historian of transactions never hitherto narrated with authority.

Sir William Lee-Warner has in the press a work dealing with the life and public career of the Marquis of Dalhousie, which is to be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. in two volumes. The story of the early life of the great Governor-General and of his tenure of public office at home has never been written, while the history of his Indian administration has been told under difficulties, owing to the care with which his correspondence has been guarded from public view. The large mass of historical material at length released from the boxes in which it has lain for nearly half a century in Dalhousie Castle includes numerous letters bound up in some 150 volumes, and many others tied together in bundles.

The will of the late Prof. Bain, of Aberdeen, is interesting only in so far as it refers to the copyrights of his books, the "sole and absolute management" of which is assigned to Dr. W. L. Davidson, Professor of Logic in the University of Aberdeen. Dr. Davidson is empowered to make a selection from the articles which Bain contributed to *Mind*, and to publish them as a volume of 'Remains.' He is also to use an autobiography written up to the year 1890 as the basis of a life of Bain.

As the result of the "examination" referred to in our last issue, the Rev. W. A. Curtis, B.D., Pitt Club Scholar in Theology of Edinburgh University, has been appointed to the Chair of Systematic Theology at Aberdeen. The new professor is only twenty-seven years of age, and is a native of Thurso. A graduate of Edinburgh University, he has lately been engaged on research work at Oxford and in translating a treatise of Origen. Mr. Curtis was licensed by the Church of Scotland about two years ago.

Note should also be made of the appointment of Mr. David A. Slater as Professor of Latin at the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, Cardiff. Mr. Slater has lately been assistant to Prof. Ramsay in the Humanity Class-room at Glasgow University. At Oxford he was well known as a writer of Latin verse.

After a very successful course the Highland and Jacobite Exhibition at Inverness was closed last Saturday. It has been visited by over 20,000 persons, and some 800*l.* have been taken. Mr. James Barron, convener of the committee in charge of the exhibition and editor of the *Inverness Courier*, is printing in that newspaper a series of articles by Mr. W. M. Macbean, of New York, entitled 'A Contribution towards Jacobite Iconography.'

Mr. Fisher Unwin has arranged to publish, as the eighth volume in his "First Novel Library," 'The Kingdom of Twilight,' by Mr. Forrest Reid. The book relies for its effect not so much on incident and plot as on delineation of subtle phases of emotion. In it the author has endeavoured to depict a man of delicate and poetic temperament to whom the experiences of life bring only weariness, sorrow, and frustration.

Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co. will issue next week the first section of the second part of Mr. Robert Proctor's 'Early Printed Books in the British Museum.' This part deals with German books, 1501–20, and will form a complete volume in itself. The edition is limited to 350 copies for England and America.

Mr. Proctor, we are sorry to hear, is missing. Up to Thursday morning the only news which had been received from the friend who is searching in Tyrol for him was that, as had been feared, the bag which he had sent forward to Steinach has remained there unclaimed. From the last letter he wrote it appears that Mr. Proctor was starting from St. Leonhard to reach Steinach in about four days. His failure to do so leaves little room for hope as to his fate.

On December 9th last Messrs. Sotheby sold the remarkable collection of books and pamphlets by or relating to Marat, Charlotte Corday, Anacharsis Cloots, and Gracchus Babœuf. The collection, which was formed by M. Georges Pilotelle, the artist, and extended to 129 bound volumes and pamphlets, was purchased for 67*l.* The Paris *Gaulois* recently published an interesting sequel to this purchase, although we are not prepared to endorse its statement that "l'Angleterre et les États-Unis recherchent avidement tout ce qui concerne Marat et Robespierre." The purchaser first of all attempted to sell the Pilotelle collection in Paris, but did not succeed. He then took it to New York. The day after his arrival "l'envoyé d'un milliardaire se présentait chez lui," and, after examining the collection, bought it for 110,000 francs, which was certainly a handsome profit on the outlay. The *Gaulois* further states that a few days afterwards the collection was placed in a public library under the name of the donor.

Another important acquisition of Franco-American interest was announced from New York last week. The University Library of Pennsylvania has just come into possession of 500 manuscripts, at one time the property of Benjamin Franklin, many of which are valuable from an historical point of view. One of the documents in the collection is an autograph letter from Robespierre, written from Arras in 1783, to Franklin. Robespierre was at this time acting as an *avocat* in his native place, and Franklin was the United States Minister in Paris. The letter deals with a case before the Court at Artois, in which Robespierre claimed for Franklin the rights to invention of a lightning conductor. It was this case and Robespierre's advocacy which popularized the invention in France.

Mr. C. F. Keary has in the press a new poem called 'Rigel: an Autumn Mystery.' It is cast in dramatic form, and readers of Mr. Keary's "masque" or opera libretto 'The Brothers' will be interested to see him working with a bolder and freer hand. Mr. Nutt is the publisher.

Mr. Harry Furniss is just now engaged upon his first work of fiction. This is a love story, but constructed on an uncommon plan. Among the forces, incidentally described, that influence the development of the hero are some of the most curious phases of modern life. The work is nearly ready for the press, and Mr. Furniss is busy upon the drawings with which it will be profusely illustrated.

The *Book Monthly* makes a good start. It has some interesting reminiscences by Mr. William Faux, to whose retirement we referred last week. Here is one of his anecdotes:—

"William Tinsley came to see me in ordinary course. He had a manuscript in his hand, and I asked him what it was. He said he thought it was a first book, but he had not had time to read it. 'Give it to me,' I said, 'and I'll read it for you.' I was taken with the work at once, believed it to betoken a coming master, and sent word to Tinsley that he ought to publish it quickly. He did so, but it fell flat until one of the weeklies gave it a belated review, when it jumped into circulation. The book was Thomas Hardy's 'Desperate Remedies.'"

No fewer than four monuments to the memory of distinguished Frenchmen were inaugurated on Sunday last. Only one of these is of literary interest—that which was unveiled at Échevannes (Côte-d'Or) to the memory of Charles François Dupuis. Dupuis was born at Trié-le-Château (Oise) in 1742, and died at Échevannes (where he is buried) in 1809. He studied for the Church, but abandoned an ecclesiastical career, and devoted himself to the study of mathematics and archæology. He took an active part in the Revolution. His literary fame rests entirely on his 'Origine de tous les Cultes,' published in 1795, but based on a series of memoirs published in the *Journal des Savants*, 1774-80. Napoleon's commission to explore Upper Egypt was one of the results of this learned work.

Last week the first number of a Danish magazine, the *New Century*, was published by the firm of Gyldendal, of Copenhagen, which recently was amalgamated with the Northern Publishing Company, thus forming the largest publishing concern in Scandinavia. The new magazine, which is edited by Dr. P. Munch, will appear twice a month, with articles on all current questions at home and abroad, and a number of leading writers have been secured as contributors. The first issue of 50,000 copies contains a poem on Finland by Björnson, and a description of his childhood by Georg Brandes.

We note the publication of the following Parliamentary Papers: Standing Orders of the House of Commons, 1903 (1*s.* 4*d.*); and Return of the Total Cost of Imperial Defence, including India and the Crown Colonies, and of the Total Cost of the Diplomatic and Consular Service to Great Britain and Ireland (½*d.*).

SCIENCE

The Victoria History of the County of Essex. Vol. I. Edited by H. Arthur Doubleday and William Page, F.S.A. (Constable & Co.)

There is room for a good general history of Essex, for the only complete account is that by Philip Morant, which was published as long ago as 1768, and has not been reprinted since 1816. The first of the four volumes that are to be allotted to Essex in the comprehensive "Victoria History" scheme fills upwards of 600 pages; it is as creditable in point of print and illustrations as its predecessors, and begins, as is appropriate, with a series of notices of the various branches of natural history, each of them contributed by experts in their own subjects. The more popular topics of flowers and birds are fortunately treated of in a way that can be appreciated by a general reader of average intelligence. Mr. J. C. Shenstone, to whom the botany of the county has been entrusted, appends the ordinary name to every flower of which he makes particular mention. This is as it should be, for where there is one technical botanist there are perhaps a score of folk who are interested in reading of such plants as the viper's bugloss, the hairy violet, the bee or spider orchis, or the Deptford pink, and knowing where they are likely to be found. Many who are well acquainted with English wild flowers, but have no special knowledge of Essex, will be surprised to hear that its most characteristic plant, the beautiful true oxlip (*Primula elatior*), often confounded with various hybrids, is so peculiarly local. "This plant," says Mr. Shenstone,

"is confined to an area of our county where it borders upon Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, and Hertfordshire, extending into those counties. It covers a stretch of country some 475 square miles in extent, having an irregular outline. There are some outlying patches, one in Cambridgeshire, one in Suffolk, and one in Norfolk. Within the district where it grows it entirely replaces the primrose and is even more abundant. On the borders of the district, which in some parts divides woods into two portions, there is usually a narrow belt of country which is occupied by hybrids between the primrose and the true oxlip. Mr. Miller Christy suggests that the primrose, which is the more hardy plant, is gradually destroying the oxlip by hybridization and replacing it."

Another interesting plant of Essex is the sea-holly, so easily recognized by its beautiful sheen of electric blue. Colchester used to be famed for a special and tasteful candy prepared from the sea-holly roots. It was first made by an alderman of the borough during the Commonwealth strife, and after that date it often appears in the borough accounts as presented by the town to royal and other distinguished visitors.

Mr. Miller Christy is known to ornithologists as the writer of a creditable monograph on the birds of this county, of which his essay in this volume is a digest with certain additions relating to more recent occurrences. He gives in his long list 287 species of birds, which he roughly classifies as residents 67, summer visitors 35, winter visitors 89, passing migrants 18, and occasional stragglers 78. Amongst the very rare stragglers he has recently noted the grey-headed yellow wagtail, the lesser golden plover, and the gull-billed tern. In Essex it appears that the prevalence of the red-legged partridge is not, as generally supposed, disadvantageous in any way to the indigenous species. The starling, here as elsewhere, is greatly on the increase, but it is recorded that the beautiful green woodpecker is rapidly declining, owing to the frequent evictions from its breeding-holes by the former bird. In some parts of the county, though this is not named by Mr. Christy, the starling has recently begun to breed in rabbit-burrows, and actually to eject the constructors. That rare visitor the little bittern has occurred several times; two specimens were obtained in June, 1867, when they were possibly breeding. The raven maintained its footing as a breeding species in Essex far later than in any other of the eastern counties; the last record was in 1890. The coot is decreasing; the vast flocks formerly seen on the coast in the winter are now a thing of the past. On the whole, this section on bird life is more generally interesting than its predecessors for other counties; it is the best of the series that has yet been issued. The county used to be noted for its wild-fowl decoys, and decoying must once have been an important Essex industry. In all there are, or have been, thirty-five of these decoys on the marshes, most of them round the shores of the Blackwater estuary; but of these only two are now worked, both of them in the parish of Tillingham. The marshes, saltings, and mud flats of the coast-line are still visited by myriads of waders and other shore birds, chiefly during the spring and autumn migrations. These form a great and continuous attraction to ornithologists, and it is surprising to learn that "the number of practical working ornithologists now resident in the county is small, and it is to be feared decreasing." This is contrary to the experience of several less-favoured counties, where careful bird observation is decidedly on the increase.

The record of early man is the joint work of Mr. G. Beaumont and Mr. Chalkley Gould, who have well discharged their allotted task. The map illustrative of this section is a model of clearness. The numerous places throughout the county where Palæolithic, Neolithic, and Bronze Age man have left behind them more or less obvious traces of their presence are marked by distinctive symbols and can be seen almost at a glance. The illustrations to this section, as well as to certain other parts of the volume, are aptly chosen, and for the most part original. Mr. Reginald Smith, in writing of Anglo-Saxon remains, puts more life into his pages than when dealing with the same subject in Hampshire, Northamptonshire, Worcestershire, and other counties, for in those instances there was a continuous aroma of mere museum cases. A new departure is the section by Mr. Chalkley Gould, wherein he deals ably with a multiplicity of earthworks of diverse dates, careful plans of all of them being given as text illustrations. It would be a good thing if the general editors provided an article on similar lines for each county.

Nearly half of the volume is taken up with an admirable treatise by Mr. J. H. Round on the Essex Domesday, and with a new translation of the text. Essex deserved special treatment, for its position in the Survey is unique; it shares with Norfolk and Suffolk an exceptional wealth of details, and yet stands apart from even those two counties, inasmuch as it was a true Saxon and not an Anglian kingdom. We find Mr. Round very interesting when he writes about the ploughs and the live-stock, the sheep in the marshes, and the swine in the woodlands, or the saltpans, the vineyards, and the beehives of the period when the country districts had settled down after the Norman conquest. His details as to the pasturing of sheep and the prevalence of the now almost forgotten industry of milking the ewes for cheese-making are of exceptional interest, and cover points never previously discussed by Domesday scholars. Cheese, butter, and milk were exceedingly important articles of agricultural economy at that period, and for their production reliance was placed not only on the cow and the goat, but also on the sheep. The quantity of cheese consumed was very great, and the milk of ten sheep was considered equivalent to that of one cow. The Survey shows that the carrying capacity of the actual coast marshes of Essex was over 18,000 sheep, whilst far larger numbers were supported on the more inland marshes. Mr. Round is able to show that the production of cheese from sheep's milk was a recognized Essex industry from the earliest days. In Elizabeth's time these sheep cheeses of great size were sent all over the country from Essex, and were the common food of the peasant and the labourer. The cheese, and sometimes the shed where the cheese was made, was termed *wicke* or *wick*, and Mr. Round considers that the memory of the primitive sheep dairies of Essex is preserved in the numerous "wicks" that still dot the coast line, such as Lee Wick, Well Wick, Wigborough Wick, and Cocket Wick, all in the parish of St. Osyth. The writer of this notice has recently observed references to extensive sheep-milking, doubtless for cheese-making, in connexion with the sheep-walks of North Derbyshire, in the Duchy of Lancaster Rolls of the days of the first three Edwards. It is a subject that is well worth attention in any district where sheep abounded in mediæval England.

The Zoological Gardens of Europe. By C. V. A. Peel. (Robinson & Co.)—Mr. Peel has visited thirty-six zoological gardens in various parts of the world. Each chapter would be a useful guide to a visitor to a given garden, but the whole is wanting in criticism, and the general result is disappointing. At a time when the affairs of the London gardens are under discussion, a general treatise on the management and condition of collections of living animals would have been most useful. All we have learnt from the work is that in many points the London gardens are not up to the continental standard.

Messrs. Longman & Co. publish a fourth and greatly revised edition of Mr. Chisholm's well-known *Handbook of Commercial Geography*, a big volume, which must not be compared with the author's "smaller" 'Commercial Geography.' The most perfect accuracy is attained by Mr. Chisholm and the ladies who

assist him, but for reference purposes the book is a little confused. Take, for example, the prospects, either general or specific, as concerns wheat, of three great countries of the future, Canada, Siberia, and temperate South America, and, with the help of index and table of contents, try to follow them out from this volume; the task is not easy, and the result is not satisfactory.

DARWIN AND EVOLUTION.

Doubts about Darwinism. By a Semi-Darwinian. (Longmans.)—*An Easy Outline of Evolution.* By Dennis Hird. (Watts & Co.)—A Semi-Darwinian exhibits profound dissatisfaction in his little book with many doctrines he is pleased to attribute to Darwin, and we should be well content to persuade him to "pair" in biological discussion with Mr. Dennis Hird, the author of a book thrice as long, who has no doubts at all about Darwinism, and is even prepared to give what he calls a "connected account of evolution." The Semi-Darwinian pleads for the intervention of an Intelligent Being at various stages in an evolutionary development of creation. In summing up his arguments in support of this he is prepared to surrender all, if those based on electric fishes remain to confute the Darwinian—an odd choice, we think, of a last line of reserves; and a suspension of judgment, at least, is asked for until an explanation is forthcoming "of the process by which the various species of these fishes became possessed of a complete electric battery occupying a considerable portion of their inside." We think that this Semi-Darwinian would gain more profit from a first-hand study of his Creator's works than from time spent in attacking an unoccupied theoretical position. It is assumed almost throughout the work that natural selection is the only factor of evolution of which biologists have yet taken cognizance, and he is prepared to jump direct from the date of publication of the 'Origin of Species' to Lord Kelvin's recent letter to the *Times*, without reference to the inquiries which biologists have in the last generation conducted. Mr. Hird professes to have written his book for elementary students, and to have aimed at simplicity and clearness. Neither simplicity nor clearness, however, will be found to emerge from that particular formless enthusiasm which leads him, like so many of the journalists of natural science, to use a magniloquence of familiarity which often suggests flippancy to the sensitive reader; and the author, while professing to remove the technical difficulties of biological text-books, has filled his pages with lengthy quotations from them. He writes under the *ægis* of the Rationalist Press Association, and shows everywhere a kind of breezy spirit in calling upon his entity "Evolution," to the discredit of any other Creator. He appears to have as vivid a pictorial notion of "Evolution" as Semi-Darwinian has of an "Intelligent Being," and perhaps there is not much in a name after all. Mr. Hird's "Evolution" is omnipotent and eternal. He says: "No combination of forces can stop that process of Evolution which from a speck of jelly has developed such living forms as Charles Darwin and Herbert Spencer." On the whole, we prefer Semi-Darwinian's modest plea for a little spasmodic creative influence to Mr. Hird's tiresome beating of the evolution drum, and we think that both would enjoy a course of personal biological study.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Mon. Royal Academy, 4.—'Grounds for Painting,' Prof. A. H. Church.
— Society of Engineers, 7½.
Wed. Entomological, 8.—'The Antennæ of Heptaliidæ,' Mr. A. Quail; 'The Laparostict Lamellicorn Coleoptera of Grenada and St Vincent, West Indies,' Mr. G. J. Arrow; 'Notes on the Habits of *Chironomus* (*Orthocladius*) *sordidellus*,' Mr. T. H. Taylor; 'On *Epoliziphora axesana*, Meyr,' Mr. A. Quail; and two other Papers.
Thurs. Royal Academy, 8.—'Composition and Classification of Pigments,' Prof. A. H. Church.

Science Gossip.

Mr. J. Allen Brown, of Ealing, whose death occurred on September 24th, at the age of seventy-two, was not only an enthusiastic collector of stone implements, but also an occasional writer on various subjects connected with geology and anthropology. In his work on 'Palæolithic Man in North-West Middlesex' he discussed, with some originality, the evidence of the existence of early man in the neighbourhood of Ealing, and the physical conditions under which he must have lived.

Messrs. Longman have in the press 'The Evolution of Earth Structure, with a Theory of Geomorphic Changes,' by Mr. T. Mellard Reade. It includes a reprint of two presidential addresses, which embody the main principles of the book, and a number of careful photographs and "micrographs." Several chapters deal with experimental models.

A trade Report (Miscellaneous Series) on 'Instruction in Forestry and Forest Economy in Germany' has just been issued at the price of 1½*d.* as a Parliamentary Paper.

The traveller Wilhelm Steller, whose death is announced from Biberach, was one of the first Europeans to travel through the Chinese province of Yunnan. He also spent many years in Burma, Bengal, and Egypt in the service of the English. The results of his travels were incorporated in a book entitled 'Reisen in China und Birma.' Steller's death is ascribed to berri-berri, a disease from which he was free, after the first attack, during twelve years' residence in the tropics, but from which he suffered annually after his return to Europe.

Another Annual Report of the Cape Observatory has recently been received. That establishment was founded under the direction of Fearon Fallows, who was appointed thereto in 1820, but died, after long ill-health, in 1831, so that the results of his observations were reduced and edited under the superintendence of Airy after he became Astronomer Royal, and formed part of the nineteenth volume of the *Memoirs* of the Royal Astronomical Society, published in 1851. Henderson succeeded Fallows, but did not long occupy the post, receiving the appointment of Astronomer Royal for Scotland in 1834, when the work at the Cape was taken up by Maclear a few days before Sir John Herschel arrived on his famous expedition to observe the nebulæ and other objects of the southern hemisphere. Sir Thomas Maclear (as he afterwards became) was succeeded by Stone in 1870, and died in 1879, the year in which Stone removed to Oxford (where he held the post of Radcliffe Observer until his death in 1897), and was replaced at the Cape by the present Director, Sir David Gill, whose work, therefore, has now extended over nearly a quarter of a century, and can only be described by the famous epithet of Dominie Sampson, as "prodigious." The present report, after speaking of several additions and improvements in the instrumental equipment, particularly the new twenty-four-inch Zeiss objective prism presented by Dr. Frank McClean, F.R.S., and now ready for mounting, describes a long series of heliometer observations of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, and includes a list of no fewer than 476 observations of α Centauri, made with a view to a new determination of its parallax. A large number of spectra of stars from the 3·5 to the 5·5 magnitude has been taken with the twenty-four-inch "Victoria" telescope, fitted with the Grubb objective prism. Satisfactory progress is recorded with the Cape section of the great photographic chart of the heavens, and also with the geodetic survey of South Africa, which is a most laborious operation, as well as that for the determination of the Anglo-German boundary in South-West Africa, the triangulation for which is completed.

Five more new small planets are announced from the Königstuhl Observatory, Heidelberg, four of which were detected by Prof. Max Wolf and one by Herr Dugan, all on the 20th ult.

Madame Ceraski, in the course of her examination of the photographic plates taken by M. Blajko at the Moscow Observatory, detected the variability of a star in Cepheus, the magnitude of which is about the ninth when brightest and below the thirteenth when at a minimum; its period is about 390 days in length. Another variable was noticed in the constellation Ursa Minor, with nearly the same limits of magnitude, and a period of about 323 days. These stars will be reckoned as var. 56, 1903, Cephei, and var. 57, 1903, Ursæ Minoris.

An emergence from occultation by Jupiter of a star of the 6½ magnitude in Aquarius was observed by Prof. Kobold at Kiel on the evening of the 19th ult., the planet being at the time very low in the heavens.

FINE ARTS

Medaillen der italienischen Renaissance. By Cornelius von Fabriczy. No. IX. of "Monographien des Kunstgewerbes." (Leipsic, Hermann Seemann Nachfolger.)

Herr von Fabriczy has produced a book which will prove of real value to students of the Renaissance. It is true that for many reasons his small monograph will not in any sense replace the monumental works of Friedländer, Heiss, and Armand; perhaps it will scarcely by itself help a beginner to master the subject. That this is so is due in chief to the inadequacy of any but the most elaborate reproductions to give a true idea of the precise quality of subtle and delicate relief which is the peculiar beauty of the medalist's art; but we have here none the less an admirable and much-needed handbook on the subject which the student can use profitably in connexion with the specimens in public collections. Moreover, although it does not replace the sumptuous and costly works which we have named, it does in many important points correct the information they contain in the light of more recent research, not a little of which is due to Herr von Fabriczy's own industry. It may be well to consider what additions to, and corrections of, the older works he has made, and how far they appear likely to meet with acceptance.

The art of medal-making, like some others, started, curiously enough, at its highest possible level, and though there is no regular and continual decadence from the beginning to the end of its history, it has never since reached the same pitch of perfection as was attained at the very outset by Pisanello. To what was already known of Pisanello's medals it would be difficult to add much that is new, but Herr von Fabriczy agrees with Signor Venturi in adding one more to the list of his works. This, which is not strictly a medal, but a plaquette, is the portrait of Leo Battista Alberti in the Louvre, at one time attributed to the celebrated humanist himself. It is not to be denied that it shows the peculiar characteristics of Pisanello's style, nor that it is a very vigorous and fine piece; but we are not yet convinced that in quality it is quite up to the standard of Pisanello's authentic works. There is a certain sharpness and thinness in the forms which sug-

gests a want of the synthetic power which distinguishes Pisanello's design.

Coming to the North Italian medalists who felt the influence of Pisanello, we may perhaps speak of the comparatively slight attention paid to Melioli, whose work is distinguished by its decorative richness and technical accomplishment. It is a pity that instead of the Gian-francesco II. Gonzaga, the only Melioli reproduced, our author did not illustrate the splendid Ludovico II. Gonzaga of 1475, particularly since the design of the armed bust in that medal appears also in works by Clemens Urbinas and Cristoforo di Geremia, and is probably the original type of these. Our author has excellent reasons for adding to the known medals by l'Antico the medal of Magdalena Mantuana. The reasons for attributing the Jacopa Correggia to Gian Cristoforo Romano are less convincing. We would point to the rounded ending off of the bust, which is so strikingly different from Gian Cristoforo's peculiarly straight and decisive ending, and to the different form of the letter R, which has not the sweeping tail of Gian Cristoforo's designs. The ingenious hypothesis about Gian Marco Cavalli which our author elaborates, and according to which he is to be placed in the first rank of Mantuan artists, may well be correct, but it should be kept in view how slight a basis there is for the induction. That Battista Spagnoli dedicated an epigram to Cavalli does not of itself prove that the medal of the former is by the latter, though it makes a presumption in favour of it, nor is it easy to detect any strong similarity of style between that medal and Cavalli's authenticated designs for Maximilian I.'s coins.

Of Pomedello's work the reproductions given present but an imperfect idea; the portrait of an unknown lady (Armand, i. 129, 13) deserved mention as a masterpiece. Our author's attribution to Alessandro Vittoria of the medal of Tomaso Rangone, with its fine reverse of Prometheus, is a happy and acceptable one. The Bernardo Rossi medal, hitherto attributed to Francia, is shown by Herr von Fabriczy to belong to so late a date as to make it more probably the work of a scholar, who, nevertheless, imitated Francia's style very closely. The Alexander Borgia with a coronation scene on the reverse is for the first time given to Francia. Though there is great external probability for this, it is not altogether easy to reconcile it with the artist's known work on stylistic grounds. Friedländer's date of 1474 for Paolo di Ragusa's medal of Federigo Montefeltro is corrected to 1450, which agrees with the duke's youthful appearance and the fact that his nose is still whole. An interesting point is raised by the medal of Alfonso of Calabria, cast to celebrate his victory at Poggio Imperiale in 1479. This has hitherto been given to Guazzalotti. Our author attributes it to Bertoldo di Giovanni, on the ground of the softer modelling and the character of the lettering. As far as the reverse goes, this seems to hold, but on the recto the letter A is given as A, a peculiarity which does not, we believe, occur in Bertoldo's work, but is present in Guazzalotti's medal of Pius II. Since we know that Bertoldo di Giovanni cast medals for Guazzalotti, the most likely hypothesis would seem to be that the recto is by Guazzalotti and the reverse by Bertoldo. The medal of Innocent VIII., said by Friedländer to be Francia's, is restored to the Florentine School, to which it undoubtedly belongs, though the name of its author is still undetermined, since the attribution to Pollajuolo rests on very inadequate evidence. We have no medal that can be attributed with probability to Pollajuolo, and our author produces fresh and convincing chronological reasons for denying to his contemporary Michelozzo the fine medal of Cosimo de' Medici which has been attributed to him. It is indeed surprising how few of the Florentine medalists can be certainly identified, though we cannot doubt that such distinctive artists as the authors of the Nonnina and Filippo Strozzi medals will one day be recognized. Of one Florentine medalist we now know a good deal, thanks to Herr von Fabriczy's researches. The works of Adriano Fiorentino were formerly classed as of the school of Bertoldo di Giovanni, but from the signature on a bust our author has been enabled to identify several medals executed by him in Germany and Naples. His residence at the Court of Frederick the Wise was not, indeed, without influence on his art.

With regard to the stamped medal of Julius II., which has variously been attributed to Francia and Caradosso, our author adduces minute characteristics of style which are entirely in favour of the latter artist. The sentiment of the portrait, with its robust characterization and frank realism, is, moreover, far removed from Francia's mode of feeling.

Among the later medalists Francesco da Sangallo was almost alone in carrying on into the mid-sixteenth century the research for characteristic form which distinguished the work of the Quattrocento. The contrast between Sangallo's work and that of Benvenuto Cellini—to which our author is able to add a new example, that of Ercole d'Este II.—shows how rapid was the decline of the art after the first quarter of the Cinquecento. How little the characteristic has to do with likeness in the modern photographic sense may be seen by looking at the medals of Pastorino, almost the only Italian medalist who would be likely to have a fashionable success to-day. His are indeed speaking likenesses, but they are remarkable rather for their pretty superficiality than for any serious interpretation of character.

One or two points in Herr von Fabriczy's introduction call for notice. The very high praise given to the collection of medals in the national museum at Florence may perhaps be misleading to students, who may not be aware of the substitution of a considerable number of forgeries for originals among the earlier pieces.

Among the private collections mentioned, that of Mr. Green, of Winchester, has now passed to the University Museum at Oxford, while Mr. G. Salting's collection deserved notice, not for its size, but for the remarkable perfection of its specimens. Nevertheless, when all reservations have been made, we welcome Herr von Fabriczy's book as one of unusual completeness and accuracy, and as a very genuine contribution to the study of a fascinating art.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL PAPERS.

Papers of the British School at Rome. Vol. I. 1902.—*The Annual of the British School at Athens.* No. VIII. Session 1901-2. (Both printed for the Subscribers and sold on their behalf by Macmillan & Co.)—The official publications of the two British Schools at Athens and Rome now appear in uniform size and binding, distinguished only by the colour of the backs. It may be said at once that the present number of the Athens 'Annual' fully maintains and even exceeds the interest of its predecessors, while the Roman 'Papers' make an excellent beginning for a new series. The main difference between the two is due to the circumstances in which the schools have to work. The Athenian publication is mainly taken up with the record and results of excavations carried out by the Director, the members, and the associates of the School. The Roman volume is entirely devoted to the no less useful work of studying and systematizing the excavations and discoveries of others. It is possible that the conditions may change to some extent in the future, but for the present, at least, the distinction is likely to continue.

The Roman volume consists of two very thorough and careful studies: one by the Director, Mr. G. McN. Rushforth, on 'S. Maria Antiqua,' and one by Mr. T. Ashby, Jun., on 'The Classical Topography of the Roman Campagna.' Mr. Rushforth's paper is a most important contribution to the ecclesiology and the iconography of the period to which he assigns the successive decorations of the church, at intervals of about fifty years between the end of the sixth century and the second half of the eighth. The dating of the second series of paintings is an ingenious inference from the contents of the scrolls held by the Fathers of the Church, which have reference to the Lateran Council of 649 A.D.; the credit for this discovery is assigned by the author to the Rev. F. E. Brightman. The Byzantine influence prevalent at this time in Rome, and its transference to England through Archbishop Theodore and Benedict Biscop, make the subject a peculiarly suitable one for the first publication of the British School at Rome. It is much to be regretted that it was impossible to illustrate the description by photographs, which would have made it easier to follow; but the official publication could not be anticipated. The article can only be fully appreciated in the ruins of the church itself.

Mr. Ashby's paper, which gives evidence of much patient exploration and research, is the first of a series. It deals with three roads—the Via Collatina, the Via Prænestina, and the Via Labicana, carefully tracing their course, recording all extant remains of them, and describing the monuments by which they are bordered. The paper is illustrated by a series of sectional maps on a large scale, on which all ancient remains are marked in red, and by photographs which supplement the description. Such summaries of what is known in various departments are particularly useful in the present state of archæological knowledge.

The 'Annual' of the British School at Athens again contains a report of Mr. A. J. Evans's excavations of the palace at Cnossus. These are so familiar, from the accounts of them that have already been published and from the exhibition at the Royal Academy last winter, that there is no need to dwell on them; but a fuller description, with many clear architectural drawings, is very welcome. The excavations of the British School in Crete occupy the greater part of the rest of the volume, which includes reports by the Director, Mr. R. C. Bosanquet, on Præsus, Petras, and Palaikastro. The Præsus discoveries were mainly of Hellenic period, with the exception of some early tombs; they included an inscription in Greek characters, but in the unknown Cretan language, which is made

by Prof. R. S. Conway the theme of an original, if somewhat speculative article on the pre-Hellenic inscriptions of Præsus. The most interesting of the antiquities found were the terra-cottas, on which an article is contributed by Mr. E. S. Forster.

At Palaikastro, on the other hand, the discoveries belong to the Mycenæan or pre-Mycenæan age; the most characteristic features are the primitive cemeteries, or rather charnel-houses, and the houses approximately contemporary with the palace at Cnossus; one of these has an open court, with columns surrounding a central area, which reminds one of the later Hellenic house.

The other articles are an excellent and careful publication and discussion of some Attic catalogues of pateræ, dedicated by slaves upon enfranchisement, by Mr. M. N. Todd; and a most useful summary by Mr. H. R. Hall of the Egyptian evidence as to the people of the Ægean, 'The Keftiu and the Peoples of the Sea.'

Fine-Art Gossip.

The exhibition of the remaining works of the late Phil May at the Leicester Galleries, Leicester Square, will open to the public on Monday, and will continue until the end of the month. The private view is fixed for to-day. In an adjoining room will be a large collection of water-colour drawings by Rowlandson.

On the 15th inst. the great equestrian statue of General Sherman will be unveiled at Washington. The statue is the work of a Danish sculptor, Rohl-Schmidt, who died three years ago while at work on it, and several Scandinavian artists, among them Stefan Sinding, have assisted in carrying out the designs in relief and the side figures representing War and Peace.

The tragic deaths of two well-known Scottish artists have to be recorded this week. Mr. J. Thorburn Ross was found in a dying condition at the bottom of his studio stair in Edinburgh on Sunday; while the body of Mr. T. B. Blacklock was thrown up on the beach at Greenock on Monday. Mr. Ross had been a regular exhibitor at the Royal Scottish Academy since 1879, and his pictures occasionally found their way to the Royal Academy and the Paris Salon. Mr. Blacklock had frequently exhibited at the R.S.A., and had lately been mentioned as a likely candidate for Associate honours.

An international exhibition of caricature is to take place at Varese this month.

M. Louis Gonse, in his 'Chefs-d'œuvre des Musées de France,' has been saying some unflattering things about the manner in which some of the collections are housed. He describes the museum at Valenciennes, with those of Caen, Cherbourg, and Mans, as the worst-known examples of arrangement. The first named is situated on the third landing of the Hôtel de Ville; it contains a quantity of fine old tapestry, many highly important works by masters of various schools, and a remarkable triptych of Rubens, 'La Lapidation de Saint Étienne.' In case of fire, M. Gonse points out that these treasures could not possibly be saved. To cover the cost of the necessary structural alterations Parliament has sanctioned a national lottery to the extent of 1,200,000 francs.

The Deutsche Orient Gesellschaft have issued two new volumes of their reports, dealing with the results of their excavations in Egypt and Mesopotamia. Dr. Borchardt states that he has now traced out the connexion between the temple of death of King Ne-woser-re (2500 B.C.) and the neighbouring pyramid, and has exposed several tombs of great interest from an architectural point of view. In the Greek cemetery, which last year yielded the papyrus of Timotheus, wooden coffins were found, containing fruit, flowers, and coloured ribbons. There is also a very interesting account of excavations at Fara, and Abu Hasal, five days' journey from Babylon, the ruins of which contain remains of a period considerably earlier than Nebuchadnezzar. Different modes of burial were discovered: the body was placed in a clay sarcophagus, forced into a clay vessel, or wrapped in a mat. A number of valuable clay tablets with inscriptions were also found.

Lectures at the Academy are announced as follows: Prof. Church discourses on Chemistry on Mondays and Thursdays from Oct. 5th to 22nd; Prof. A. Thomson on Anatomy, on the same days, from Oct. 26th to Dec. 3rd; and Prof. Aitchison, R.A., on Architecture, with 'Vitruvius' as subject, on Feb. 29th, March 3rd, 7th, and 10th. The lectures on painting and sculpture are not yet announced.

MUSIC

Musical Gossip.

The performance of 'Tristan' by the Moody-Manners Company yesterday week was of a high order of merit. The limitations of Madame Marchesi's voice were at moments perceptible, but in the first act she displayed keen dramatic instinct, while her singing in the second act was delightful. Her impersonation of Isolde was altogether her finest stage achievement. Mr. Arens also proved satisfactory as Tristan: his conception of the part was thoroughly good, though at times—possibly through nervousness—a little formal. Mr. Charles Magrath as King Mark acquitted himself well. Last year the orchestra in Wagner's music-dramas left much to desire. At this performance the playing, if not ideal, was truly excellent. Throughout the season the hard-worked conductor, Herr Eckhold, proved himself an able, tactful conductor, but never more so than on this occasion. The five weeks' season ended on the following day, and we are glad to learn that the result has been highly satisfactory. The company will return to London again next year.

The forty-eighth annual series of Saturday Concerts commences to-day, with a pianoforte recital by M. Vladimir de Pachmann. On Saturday, the 17th, Miss Marie Hall gives a violin recital. On the 24th the Wilhelm Backhaus party will appear, and on the 31st Madame Marchesi and Mr. Denis O'Sullivan. For November 7th M. Kubelik is engaged, and for the 14th Signor Busoni. For December 5th the Crystal Palace Amateur Orchestral Society and the Crystal Palace Choir are announced. The last of the series, December 12th, will be a Chappell Ballad Concert.

The twenty-sixth season of the Highbury Philharmonic Society commences at the Athenæum, Highbury New Park, on November 24th, with Elgar's 'Coronation Ode,' Coleridge-Taylor's 'Hiawatha's Wedding Feast,' and Villiers Stanford's 'Voyage of Maeldune.' The second concert, on January 19th, 1904, will be orchestral, with a miscellaneous programme. On March 1st 'Elijah' will be given, and at the last concert, May 3rd, Sterndale Bennett's 'May Queen' and Elgar's 'King Olaf.'

The second series of the Broadwood Concerts will commence at St. James's Hall on Thursday, November 5th, after which the dates will be as follows: November 19th, December 3rd, 17th; and next year January 7th, 21st; February 4th, 11th, and 25th; March 3rd, 18th, and 25th; all Thursdays except the last two dates, which fall on a Friday.

The eighteenth season of the South Place Sunday Popular Concerts commences to-morrow evening at South Place Institute, Finsbury. The programme, devoted to Russian composers, will include Glazounoff's Quintet for Strings in A (Op. 39), and Paul Juon's Pianoforte Sextet in C minor (Op. 22), announced as the "first public performance in England." Miss Evelyn Suart will be the pianist, and Mrs. Henry J. Wood the vocalist.

The ninth season of the excellent Winter Symphony Concerts at Bournemouth, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, commences on Monday next. At the first concert Mr. R. H. Walthew will play the solo part of his Pianoforte Concerto (first public performance), and at the fifth Saint-Saëns's Second Concerto for 'cello and orchestra will be given for the first time in England.

By the death of Theodor Kirchner, who had nearly completed his eightieth year, a link has been broken with a past which, on account of the marked changes which have since taken place in music, seems to us very remote. Of the friends of Mendelssohn and Schumann not many remain; at the head stand Profs. Joachim and Reinecke. In 1843 Schumann reviewed Kirchner's first work—ten songs for voice and pianoforte—in highly favourable terms; he was of opinion that the composer showed good promise for the future. And in a letter to his friend Verhulst, written in the same year, Schumann says: "In Kirchner alone do I find a warm music soul." He was a prolific writer, principally of songs and pianoforte pieces. His 'Albumblätter,' Op. 9, which Madame Schumann used to play, are popular. He was an able and attractive writer, and, in spite of the strong influence of Schumann, displayed individuality. Had he written less it would, however, have been better for his reputation.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

Sun. Sunday Concert Society, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
Mon.—Sat. Promenade Concerts, 8, Queen's Hall.
Sat. Madame Clara Butt and Mr. Kennerley Rumford's Concert, 3, Albert Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

Wyndham's.—'Little Mary,' an "Uncomfortable" Play in Three Acts. By J. M. Barrie.

While it is difficult to scold Mr. Barrie for the nature of his latest work, it seems possible to find in it some subject for remonstrance. The object with which the work is written is obtained: the audience thrills with satisfaction and brims over with laughter, and author and management are in the enviable position their predecessors occupied in Lincoln's Inn Fields in January, 1729, when the production of 'The Beggar's Opera' made Gay rich and Rich gay. From a certain standpoint nothing more is to be asked. It is no part of the obligation of dramatist or manager to look after the education of the playgoer or the advancement of the stage. We are disposed, however, to view with a feeling akin to dismay the extent to which on the stage the fantastic is supplanting the dramatic. An infusion of fantasy can be traced in works of some of the greatest producers of comedy—Shakspeare, Marivaux, Musset. For the latest development Mr. Gilbert seems wholly responsible, and his 'Engaged' occupies the same place with regard to the works of Mr. Barrie and Mr. Bernard Shaw that 'Le Chapeau de Paille d'Italie' holds with regard to musical or operatic farce. One is none the less apt to grow weary of work written with the tongue in the cheek, under which classification must be ranged 'The Flood

Tide' and 'Man and Superman' as well as 'Little Mary.' We are not protesting against the humour of calling the stomach Little Mary. Such as it was, the joke was well kept, and when, after looking in vain down the list of the *dramatis personæ* for a character unseen though frequently named, the audience heard the explanation timidly and demurely advanced by Miss Boucicault, it burst into a guffaw. But the secret is now out, and future audiences will hope in vain for the sensation experienced by the first. The entire action passes in a species of prosaic fairyland. Who can conceive an English earl wandering into the New Cut or some remote and transpontine region, and entering the shop of a casual chemist, there to wait while a prescription is made up? What follows is equally hard of acceptance. The chemist would not ask him to take a seat in his back parlour, nor would the earl ascend a ladder for the purpose of peeping into mysterious boxes, however inexplicable might be the sounds that issued thence. This is but prosaic criticism, which we will not continue. If we are to receive, however, Mr. Barrie's postulates, we must surrender ourselves blindly to his guidance, and accept whatever he may choose to say. There is no reason why we should not do this, since amusement and entertainment are the rewards of so doing. Accustomed in the past to the higher service of the drama, we are scarcely content with this Lucianesque treatment of its gods. It has been the lot of the playgoer to contemplate at Drury Lane a melodrama in which the characters are almost without exception criminals, and at the Garrick to get such humour as is to be gained from the antics of a gentleman who, for no particular reason, receives his visitors before he is out of bed, and then struts before them in pyjamas. Less vulgar and less extravagant are the proceedings in which Mr. Barrie seeks to interest us, but they are scarcely less unreal. We can but hope that the forthcoming play of Mr. Pinero will bring with it a return to reason and sanity. Mr. Barrie was well served by his company. Mr. Hare maintained his high position as a representative of aristocratic benevolence, and Miss Boucicault strengthened that she has recently won in juvenile parts. Mr. Eric Lewis and Mr. Gerald du Maurier gave effective and lifelike presentations.

Dramatic Gossip.

'Capt. Dieppe,' by Anthony Hope and Mr. Harrison Rhoades, has been given at the Harold Square Theatre, New York, with Mr. John Drew as the hero.

Provided with a prologue and epilogue, which do not appear in the printed version, Mr. W. L. Courtney's dream play of 'Undine' has been given by Mrs. Patrick Campbell at the Shakspeare Theatre, Liverpool.

In Lady Bancroft's one-act play 'A Dream,' given on the same occasion, Mrs. Patrick Campbell played a lady of eighty years.

'Angelina's Lover,' a one-act comedy of Frank Stayton, was produced on September 24th as a *lever de rideau* at Wyndham's Theatre. It is a bright piece, in which Miss Florence Lloyd plays very agreeably as a woman masquerading as a boy. Mr. Sam Sothern and Miss Janet Evelyn were also seen to advantage.

On the 25th ult. the Great Queen Street Theatre reopened for the production of a three-act farce called 'Dumbbell Daisy.' With it was given 'Mummydom,' by Messrs. Rutland Barrington and W. Bendall. Of the two pieces, neither of them very strong or attractive, the latter is the more significant.

With no more wisdom than is ordinarily shown in the conduct of theatrical affairs, the opening at the Adelphi of Madame Duse's season has been transferred from this evening to Monday next. Saturday is immeasurably the best night for an important experiment, since it gives the reporter a little respite of leisure to consider the novelty. The only defence of the attitude taken up by the managers against Saturday is that during the summer a portion of society is in the habit of spending "week-ends" out of town.

The action of Mr. Stephen Phillips's new play 'The Puritan,' which is expected at the St. James's Theatre, passes in the middle of the seventeenth century. Its hero, to be played by Mr. Willard, is a Commonwealth general.

A four-act drama by Mr. John Rutherford, entitled 'The Breed of the Treshams,' produced by Mr. Martin Harvey at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, on Monday, deals also with English life during the Parliamentary Wars.

Mr. Stephen Phillips's 'Ulysses' has been given at the Garden Theatre, New York, with Mr. Tyrone Power as Ulysses and Miss Rose Coghlan as Penelope.

To Correspondents.—C. S.—W. B.—C. E. D. B.—A. F.—J. C. C.—received.
F. C. N.—Many thanks.
E. M.—H. B.—Too late.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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